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Europa: Britain's priorities by Lord Carrington

Mr Foot in renewed effort to keep Labour's dissidents

There was renewed speculation at Westminster last night over developments in the Labour Party after Mr Foot held talks with the so-called "gang of three" to try to keep them within the party. Our Political Staff write, however, that Mrs Williams may resign from the national executive this week. In another move, Mr Wedgwood Benn joined the left-wing Tribune Group of MPs.

Mr Benn joins Tribune Group

By George Clark and Michael Hatfield

While Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, was working to prevent a serious split inside the party, involving discussions with the so-called "gang of three", it was announced last night that Mr Wedgwood Benn had joined the left-wing Tribune Group of Labour MPs.

Those two developments led to renewed speculation at Westminster last night, particularly as nothing was revealed about Mr Foot's meeting with Mrs Shirley Williams, who is contemplating leaving the national executive committee, Dr David Owen, former Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Mr William Rodgers, who recently resigned from the Shadow Cabinet.

Although neither side would talk about the meeting in Mr Foot's room, which lasted an hour, it is understood that Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the party, argued a convincing case for the "gang of three" not to resign as party members.

According to close friends of Mrs Williams, the attempt by Mr Foot and Mr Healey to persuade her to remain a member of the national executive is not likely to be successful and she may announce her resignation this week.

She herself declared on Sunday night that she would give a verdict after she had seen Mr Foot but she wants a few days to discuss the position with her social democrat colleagues.

It is probable that she will give her decision when the Council for Social Democracy announces the list of people from all sections of society who support their aims.

If Mrs Williams were to resign from the national executive she would be succeeded by Mrs Betty Boothroyd, MP for West Bromwich, West. Mr Tom Bradley, MP for Leicester, East, another member of the NEC who supports the Council for Social Democracy, is not likely to resign. He prefers to stay on and work with Mr Healey and others who want to stop the leftward drift of the party.

Mr Healey's contribution came at a time when it is known that the left wing would like to put up Mr Benn as a rival contender for the deputy leadership in October.

At yesterday's talks with Mr Foot and Mr Healey the main criticism of the dissidents was apparently about the weak stand made by the parliamentary party leaders at the Wembley conference a week ago.

They questioned whether the final decision, giving the unions 40 per cent of the vote, and the parliamentary party and the constituency parties 30 per cent, in an electoral college was valid, in view of party rules about the union block vote.

Mr Benn's decision to join the Tribune Group, after being an MP for 30 years, shook Labour backbenchers, but it coincides with a battle taking place inside the group between the so-called legitimate left and the far left.

A minority of Tribunites, led by Mr Reg Race, MP for Haringey, Wood Green, wants to move the group away from its concentration on constituency parties to the wide open spaces of the trade union movement in order to gain greater support for the left-wing economic strategy.

The move has been resisted so far because the traditional Tribunite left does not want to embarrass Mr Foot any further, at a time when the party is facing a crisis.

Mr Benn's first appearance at the Tribune meeting in Westminster surprised most of the long-serving members. The first intimation that Mr John Tilley (Lambeth Central), the group treasurer, had of Mr Benn's intentions was when he received a cheque for £50, the membership fee, earlier in the day, with a letter stating that Mr Benn proposed to join.

Mr Benn turned up at the regular Monday night meeting.

Some left wing MPs said they thought that Mr Benn had joined because he felt somewhat isolated during the present dispute inside the party. Nonethaless they said they were surprised at his appearance because at a parliamentary party meeting the previous week Mr Benn had suggested that he was not in favour of joining groups.

The Tribune Group, loyal to Mr Foot, have so far resisted attempts to create schisms in their own ranks and create difficulties for the party leadership. Last week and last night the majority has headed off proposals that the group should back the special party conference for the election of the party leader.

But many Tribunites feel, with anger, that there is a serious attempt to push the group further than it would like to go. Their mood is based upon a paper submitted by Mr Race which has so far been rejected.

He suggested that the Tribune Group should join with the Labour Coordinating Committee and the Rank and File Mobilizing Committee, both of whom are identified with Mr Benn.

Mr Race's other proposals were that the Tribune Group should consider a rank and file trade union conference, possibly centring on the alternative economic strategy; consultations with senior trade union leaders over the shape of the next wage round; and advertising the availability of Tribune speakers to trades councils and trade union branches.

Mr John Roper, the moderate Labour MP for Farnworth, who has openly expressed support for the Council for Social Democracy, said yesterday it was "highly unlikely" that he would be offering himself for selection in his constituency at the next general election.

Labour poll, page 2

Brixton governor is moved after escape

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Serious weaknesses in security at Brixton Prison allowed the escape of Gerard Tuite, who is charged with involvement in Provisional IRA bombing, and two other prisoners in December, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, told the House of Commons in a statement yesterday.

A new governor, Mr Anthony Pearson, now at Gartree high security prison, has been appointed to remedy the weaknesses. Mr Michael Selby, his predecessor, has been moved to a post in the prison service regional office organization. Some other members of the staff have been transferred.

Mr Tuite has still not been recaptured and a widespread publicity campaign, including the posting of his photograph on hoardings, indicates how seriously Scotland Yard views his disappearance.

Mr Whitelaw said that he had been advised by Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, that it would not be right for the report of an inquiry into the escape to be published at present because of criminal proceedings in connexion with it. Nor did Mr Whitelaw go into details of how the escape took place.

The main conclusion of the report, by Mr Gordon Fowler, deputy director general of the prison service, is that the escape was made possible by human error, specifically by serious weaknesses at all levels in the prison in the application of the security procedures laid down of Category A prisoners (those held in top security accommodation).

Mr Fowler decided that there was no evidence to suggest that there was any conspiracy or collusion in the escape by members of the staff of Brixton prison. The prison was one of the worst examples of the inadequacies of the many worn out and antiquated prisons, but the physical fabric was not in itself a principal factor in the escape.

It had to be acknowledged, however, that "when we contain high risk prisoners in far from ideal, though not insecure, conditions we increase the weight of responsibility on the staff concerned", Mr Whitelaw said.

Mr Fowler also reported that with a senior officer and seven officers responsible for supervising 15 Category A prisoners in the maximum security wing, and one officer responsible for their surveillance at night, the staffing level was entirely adequate.

Industrial action being taken by prison officers did not impinge on security at the prison and staffing levels in the wing were unaffected by it. "Nor did he find that the security procedures themselves were defective."

Mr Fowler's clear view was that the failure to prevent the escape was caused by specific human weaknesses occurring over a period of time at all levels of the staff concerned.

Continued on page 2, col 7

30 police hurt in Hamburg rioting

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Feb 2

About 30 police and an unknown number of demonstrators were injured in street battles in Hamburg tonight.

The violence errupted as 12,000 demonstrators marched through the cit ycentre to protest against the controversial Brokdorf nuclear power station, while the city's ruling Social Democrat Party debated whether the station should be completed.

Groups of extremists threw paving stones at the police, smashed shop and hotel windows and wrecked cars. The damage was estimated at several million marks. About 35 people were detained.

The demonstration, organized by Socialist Party youth, was intended to be peaceful. Nevertheless police sealed off the trade union headquarters where the debate was being held and brought in 2,500 men, many from other towns. Police forbade a simultaneous demonstration by groups who were suspected of wanting to cause trouble.

The Hamburg Socialists are deeply divided over Brokdorf and the issue has turned into an internal party struggle between those who support Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, in the view that nuclear energy is sometimes necessary and those who reject it outright.

Photograph, page 4

The underarm action that was condemned as underhand: Trevor Chappell, of Australia, delivering the last ball to McKechnie, of New Zealand, in Melbourne. Report, page 10.

Moderating influence of Mr Walesa ends strike

Warsaw, Feb 2.—Mr Lech Walesa intervened personally today to end a general strike in southern Poland, confirming his moderate line and appearing to strengthen his position in Solidarity by negotiations with the Government.

State radio said Mr Walesa went to the province of Bielsko-Biala, near the Czechoslovak border, to persuade workers to call off a seven-day general strike which has brought industry and public transport to a standstill. They are demanding the dismissal of local officials whom they accuse of corruption and illicit financial dealings.

Solidarity, whose national leaders voted overwhelmingly last night to call off a one-hour general strike planned for tomorrow says it wants to discourage local branches from striking against provincial governments. "We want to stop these anti-corruption strikes, otherwise the whole country would have to go on strike" one Solidarity official said.

Another national Solidarity leader, Mr Andrzej Gwiazda, flew to the south-eastern city of Rzeszow to take part in negotiations between a government delegation and striking farmers who are campaigning for the right to establish their own independent union, a move which the Government until now resolutely opposed.

There were signs that the Government might be prepared to change its mind. Solidarity said it was calling off the strike because Mr Andrzej Kácala, the deputy Agriculture Minister, had begun talks with farmers.

The issue of a rural Solidarity, which could develop into another powerful organization outside Communist Party control, was one of three which created a near crisis in labour relations last month.

The other two, free Saturdays and Solidarity's demands for access to the mass media, were resolved for the time being during 12-hour negotiations between the Government and the union last Friday and Saturday.

A group of farmers continued a week-old hunger strike in a church at the south-western town of Swidnica to back demands for the recognition of a rural Solidarity, union sources in Wroclaw near by said today.

They said two of the demonstrators had to be taken to hospital last night but that the others were doing well. "We are starving ourselves so that Poles might never be faced with the menace of starvation", a statement issued by the hunger-strikers said.—Reuter.

TUC urges £6,200m boost for economy

By Donald Macintyre

The TUC will press the Prime Minister tomorrow for a publicly funded £6,200m injection into the economy as the minimum to ensure that there is no further decline in output during 1981.

The reflationary proposal, which is the central short-term demand in the TUC economic Review, published yesterday, is based on what Congress House believes would allow a reasonable prospect of a modes 1½ per cent growth in the economy during 1982.

The review proposes that two thirds of the sum should be met from direct expenditure and the other third by reversing "deflationary" increases in both employers' and employees' national insurance contributions.

The targets for spending would include £400m for public sector construction projects, £600m for raising cash limits for nationalized industries to fund modernization, £710m for further expansion of manpower and job creation measures, £1,450m for increased pensions, other benefits and for the health service, an extra £1,000m on education and £250m in aid to industry.

The TUC argues that the 3 per cent stimulus which they are seeking is the only way for the economy to break out of the "strait-jacket in which the Government has imprisoned it".

While the measures would mean an immediate increase in public borrowing in the short term, the compensating gains in higher tax revenues and reduced benefits would mean that the medium-term net cost would be "considerably" less than £6,200m.

Launching the review, which argues that the alternative to the policies outlined in it is "one million more people unemployed in the coming year", Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said that the prospect at the moment was that by 1985 the real level of unemployment (on unchanged assumptions) would reach five million. "That is a sombre and serious assessment."

He was disappointed that Mrs Thatcher, who expressed strong resistance at the weekend in a television interview to any call for reflationary measures, should have "pre-empted" tomorrow's meeting of the National Economic Development Council. The Prime Minister will be in the chair.

"We hope that more and more people will accept that this is the right way to go and put pressure on the Conservative Government, but if a Conservative Government cannot recognize the right way for the nation to go, my advice is to get out and let in someone who does recognize what is right for the nation.

"I do not want to be alarmist but I am alarmed at the complacency of ministers. It is as if they were completely ignorant of the terrible scars that unemployment has caused in Merseyside, Consett, South Wales, Northern Ireland, and the many, many other unemployment black spots."

The review repeats the argument that taking into account the unregistered unemployed and allowing for those on temporary schemes and on short-time working "the total job shortage" is 3.5 million.

Publication of the review was brought forward by a month this year. It says it is essential that the forthcoming Budget should not contain any further tax increases or expenditure cuts. "That would push the economy still further into a nose dive."

The Government had failed to respond to the Brandt Commission proposals for a transfer of resources from developed countries to the Third World. Such a policy would boost demand for manufactured products from industrialized countries.

Again on familiar territory, the TUC argues that the Government is "failing to use North Sea oil revenues to benefit the economy". If oil and gas revenues were used correctly they would provide an opportunity for the United Kingdom to break out of the "vicious spiral of declining output and unemployment which government policies are causing".

Plan For Growth, The Economic Alternative. (TUC Economic Review 1981.) TUC Publications Department, Congress House, Great Russell Street (£1.20).

Alternative for recovery, page 12
Leading article, page 13

Postal strike is settled

The postal strike in Manchester was called off last night after eight days when a mass meeting of 2,000 members of the Union of Communication Workers voted overwhelmingly to accept a nine-point formula drawn up after 54 hours of negotiations.

The union won the right to prior consultation before the implementation of changes in working practices but had to concede cuts in tea breaks

The Post Office today starts the task of clearing the backlog of 150,000 parcels and one million letters stockpiled throughout Manchester and a further 150,000 parcels and two million letters held up all over Britain.

Convert Jew appointed Archbishop of Paris

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 2

If a few years ago, the Paris clergy and laity had been told that their new archbishop would be a converted Jew of Polish origin, they would not have believed it. Yet that is the Pope's choice for the metropolitan see, made public today after a spate of leaks and rumours.

The choice of Mgr Jean-Marie Lustiger, aged 54, who has only been Bishop of Orleans for 14 months, to be the one hundred and thirty-ninth Archbishop of Paris is surprising in all respects.

Apart from the fact that he is the first French bishop not to have been born in a Christian family—he became a convert to Catholicism at the age of 14—Mgr Lustiger is also the first former vicar of a Paris parish to have been put in charge of the archdiocese since the 1516 concordat.

There is a sort of tradition in the French Church that bishops are not appointed to sees where they have lived and worked as priests for any length of time. This helps to avoid difficult problems of authority.

It is also extremely unusual for a bishop to be moved to a new see so soon after his appointment to another. A bishop is regarded as wedded to his diocese, unlike a prefect, who usually moves on after three years. In the case of

Continued on page 6, col 1

£9m mystery of the missing fight promoter

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 2

One of the country's leading boxing promoters has disappeared with his family, and so has an official from his bank, from which \$20m (£9m) has apparently disappeared.

The missing man is Mr Harold Smith, aged 37, head of Muhammad Ali Professional Sports, the newest of the handful of big boxing promotion outfits. Muhammad Ali, the former world heavyweight champion, has no formal connexion with the company but receives a fee for the use of his name.

Mr Smith's biggest promotion, the one that was to have established him among the leaders in the field, is scheduled for February 23 at Madison Square Garden in New York. It was to have included at least two world title fights as well as a heavyweight match between two leading title contenders, Ken Norton and Gerry Cooney.

The title fights were to involve the welterweights Thomas Hearns and Wilfred Benitez, and the light heavyweights Eddie Mustafa Muhammad and Matthew Saad Muhammad. The purses for all the boxers would have amounted to \$10m.

Whether the card will be staged as planned is perhaps the least intriguing question. The big mystery is the whereabouts of Mr Smith, who vanished after hosting a party in Puerto Rico last Wednesday.

Today's *New York Post* suggests that he may have been murdered, but produces no evidence to support this supposition. He was due in Los Angeles last week for a meeting with Muhammad Ali but did not turn up. *There is a* report that he told a friend he wanted to go to Australia.

The company has promoted a series of expensive and well-publicized fights at Madison Square Garden but has apparently lost several million dollars on them. But the source of the money which finances the fights is unknown.

Last week, two days after Mr Smith disappeared, the Federal Bureau of Investigation said they were looking into the apparent disappearance of \$20m from the Beverly Hills branch of the Wells Fargo Bank, account. The bank announced that the company's account had been frozen.

Mr Benjamin Lewis, the official at the bank who handled the company's account, is also missing. Mr Lewis was on the company's board of directors.

Muhammad Ali, who is said to have earned about \$1m last year for letting the firm use his name, has disassociated himself from the company until the situation is clarified.

Professional boxing has never been able to rid itself of its tainted image, and if the FBI's suspicions about this latest incident prove founded the sport will find it even more difficult to beat the count.

Girl murdered

A girl aged 18 was found murdered yesterday in a field off the Exeter by-pass, 400 yards from the Middlemore headquarters of the Devon and Cornwall police.

Councillors to fight £2m surcharge move on pay deal

Labour councillors in the London Borough of Camden are to fight a move by the District Auditor for a court declaration that a pay settlement for council manual workers during the "dirty jobs" dispute two years ago was unlawful. The councillors could face a surcharge of nearly £2m, and be disqualified from office, if the move succeeds Page 4

French in Pacific dispute

Vanuatu, the newly independent Pacific island state, which was an Anglo-French condominium until last year, is expelling the French ambassador today. A dispute with Paris follows the expulsion from the neighbouring French islands of New Caledonia of a Vanuatu minister who had gone to address the local independence movement Page 6

Recession 'end in sight'

Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, said the end of the world recession was in sight. Economies would start growing again some time this year, but he thought the recovery might be slow Page 15

Mao nephew 'to be tried'

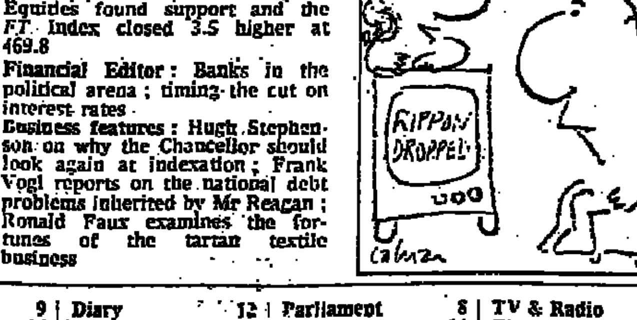
Mr Mao Yuanxin, aged 41 and a nephew of the late Mao Tse-tung, is to be tried for "towering crimes against the party and the people", according to a Chinese newspaper. The paper said 12 former military officers would also be tried for plotting to kill Chairman Mao Page 7

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Oslo: Norway's new Prime Minister, to be announced today, is expected to be a woman 4

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British Rail prepares tough pay offer to force unions to accept productivity changes

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

British Rail is working out a single-figure percentage pay offer for 180,000 railwaymen that introduces a new concept of built-in linkage to productivity.

The plan taking shape ahead of negotiations for the 1981 settlement, due in April, is designed to lock the three rail unions into a programme of reform on train manning and work rostering.

BR has decided on this tough line after the failure of its "softly, softly" approach to productivity bargaining adopted over the past year. That has failed to produce the required breakthrough in union attitudes.

If the unions are ready to give firm guarantees, then a settlement of about 8 per cent is available, despite British Rail's continuing financial crisis. Freight operations recorded a £70m loss in 1980 *after breaking even in the previous year.*

But if they refuse to enter into a binding agreement enabling the planned introduction of "Continental" rosters and trains operated by one man, BR will insist on an offer as low as 5 per cent.

And even if the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association do agree to the linkage of pay and productivity in the agreement, some of the money is likely to be held back until later to ensure that the unions deliver.

That would involve a two-stage wage agreement of a kind successfully resisted by the rail unions last year when faced with a less sharply focused choice.

The changes in working conditions being proposed by British Rail would not initially generate many job reductions, but the board is to tell the unions that it is cutting short consultations on 10,000 to 11,000 job savings this year by imposing the closure of some marshalling yards and withdrawing from the parcels service.

These measures were originally to have been phased in over three years but the loss of business caused by the recession has obliged the management to accelerate its rationalization programme.

One achievement over the past year which the unions will be able to cite as evidence of their willingness to deliver economies is a saving of about £20m—£2m more than envisaged—through a natural wastage scheme that has cut some 3,500 jobs.

The saving has been achieved with the support of the unions. But that backing has fallen short of what BR regards as necessary in the crucial next step into changed work practices that could ultimately lead to higher wages in return for as many as 38,000 fewer railway workers.

Spending on defence £250m over cash limit

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence will overspend its cash limits on new equipment by more than £250m this financial year, Sir Frank Cooper, the ministry's permanent under-secretary, told MPs last night.

He blamed a variety of forces which had made it impossible to control spending with industry for the second year in succession.

Sir Frank, in evidence to the Committee of Public Accounts, insisted that his department was trying to make the cash limits system work, not to wreck it. But it could not do so in the present industrial situation. He also criticized the 1979-80 cash limits proposed by the Treasury as "quite unrealistic".

Companies affected by the recession were now doing more work on defence contracts than at any time since the Second World War. As a result, equipment and bills were being delivered more quickly than planned.

Significant economies had been made during the last two years, with the cooperation of the Chiefs of Staff, in travel, spare parts and short-term equipment.

But the room for manoeuvre in the equipment budget was very limited, with only 10 per cent of the money uncommitted at the start of the financial year, and even less by the autumn. The rest of the budget was committed to contracts "in full flow", and to touch them would mean cutting back on important items.

High-level talks were being conducted with industry as the ministry tried to switch to a system of monthly payments.

A study of the difficulties was also being made by outside accountants, who were due to deliver their report by the end of March. But Sir Frank said it would be extremely difficult for his department to emerge every year with "a bang on" 3 per cent growth in spending, as demanded by Nato.

He was also worried by what might happen after the recession. "We do not want to go back to the normal pattern, because industry used to deliver equipment so late", he said.

Labour 'least affected by new centre group'

By John Roper

Most of the support for a possible social democratic party is coming not from Labour supporters but from Conservatives and Liberals, according to a poll broadcast on the Granada television programme, *World in Action*, last night.

A Market and Opinion Research International poll was taken in 11 constituencies where MPs have declared their allegiance to the Council for Social Democracy. It found that most Labour voters appeared to be unconcerned by the new way of electing a Labour leader and said it would make no difference to the way they would vote in the next election.

If the MPs in the 11 constituencies were to stand as social democrats in the next election they would lose their seats, the poll said.

To a question about what difference the new system of electing a Labour leader would make to the way their vote was cast in a general election, 75 per cent of Labour voters said it would make no difference; 13 per cent said they were less likely to vote Labour; and 8 per cent said they were more likely to vote Labour.

More than half, 56 per cent, of Labour supporters thought that the unions should have a vote in the election of a Labour leader, but 31 per cent thought they should not.

But 86 per cent of union members considered that the way a union votes should be decided by a ballot.

If the MPs in those 11 constituencies were to stand on their home ground as social democrats in the next election, the Liberals would get the *lowest vote of 8 per cent, the* Conservatives 20 per cent, and social democrats 32 per cent, still 7 per cent behind Labour.

Even if no Liberal stood, the poll said the social democrats would still come out the losers.

The figures of potential new social democratic voters coming from the main parties were: Liberal Party 43 per cent; Conservatives 31 per cent; and Labour 28 per cent.

Four main issues stand in the way of an agreement before the deadline of February 12

Murdoch team to study proposals from 'Times' unions

By Our Labour Editor

Negotiations on the proposed takeover of Times Newspapers continued on an even keel yesterday between Mr Rupert Murdoch's management and the printing unions, despite fears of a breakdown. The two sides are to meet again next Monday.

Four main issues stand in the way of an agreement for a smooth transfer of ownership before February 12, the deadline set by the present owners, Thomson British Holdings. Meanwhile, talks at chapel (union office branch) level on new manning arrangements continue today with the electricians and engineering workers and tomorrow with the journalists.

Mr William Keys, general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, said after talks lasting three and a half hours with News International management at New Printing House Square: "I am rather more hopeful, but we have still a long long way to go before we can say we have this thing tied up".

The four issues dividing Murdoch management and the printing unions are:

A wage freeze until October, 1982. "This we find unacceptable", Mr Keys said. Printing workers are covered by a wage agreement that expires next October; the journalists signed an 18-month agreement lasting until December 31, with a £675-a-year flat rate increase due in July.

Compulsory redundancies. The unions have rejected News International's insistence that if the required level of demanning cannot be achieved by voluntary redundancy then compulsory redundancies will follow.

Removal of printing of the three "Times" supplements from London. Murdoch management want the titles to be put out to contract printing by March 15, the day after Thomson relinquishes responsibility for publication of all the papers. That move is strongly opposed by the craft printing union, the National Graphical Association.

Maintenance of continuous production agreement. The unions object to "punitive clauses" in the News International formula, and they are meeting on Friday to draw up jointly agreed counter-proposals

Mr John Collier, one of the Murdoch negotiators, said yesterday's talks went "reasonably well". He added: "The unions will put up counter-proposals and we will look at them sensibly and rationally."

Murdoch management had not expected an automatic acceptance of their proposals.

Union negotiators were less optimistic about the prospects for reaching a deal, and Mr Owen O'Brien, general secretary of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel; said the unions might seek an extension of the deadline from Thomson British Holdings

New chapel leader: Mr Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, was yesterday elected as father (chairman) of the National Union of Journalists' (NUJ) chapel at *The Times* in succession to Mr Jacob Ecclestone (a Staff Reporter writes). Mr Ecclestone is shortly to take up his appointment as NUJ deputy general secretary.

Poll tax favoured by Tory MP whose private Bill would abolish rates

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Abolition of the domestic rating system has long been an objective of the Conservative Party, but despite hopeful statements at election time, no action as yet been taken.

Today in the Commons Mr Christopher Murphy, Conservative MP for Welwyn and Hatfield, will attempt to draw his party's attention to the subject by introducing a private member's Bill to abolish rates.

He frankly admits that, with the limited time allotted to private members' Bills, his *initiative cannot* get very far in legislative terms, but he *hopes to concentrate* the minds of Conservative ministers on the subject.

Rates are manifestly unfair; that is the main proposition of Mr Murphy and the Tories who support him. It is wrong, they say, that an elderly widow and a neighbouring family of five or six persons, several of them in full-time employment, should pay the same rates.

Mr Murphy said last night: "My party is committed to abolishing domestic rates, but the problem has always been, what to do to put in their place.

"I see three options: a completely centralized system where the rates are obtained through income tax; a local sales tax, as used in the United States; and a poll tax, where everyone on the local electoral roll pays on a flat rate basis for the services provided by the local with exceptions for elderly elderly people."

Mr Murphy favours the third method. The present system, under which one wage earner in a house paid more than two or three wage earners in a smaller house, was obviously unfair.

"Another important consideration is that the adoption of a poll tax would increase the element of local accountability," he said. "Councillors do not like the idea of control passing away from them to paymasters who are remote from the area."

Other Conservative supporters of the Bill include: Mr Richard Alexander (Newark), Mr Timothy Brinton (Gravesend), Mr Densmore Dover (Chorley), Mr Peter Griffiths (Portsmouth North), Mr Iain Mills (Meriden), Mr David Bevan (Birmingham, Yardley), Mr John Carlisle (Luton, West), Mr Robert Dunn (Dartford), Mr Warren Hawksley (The Wrekin), and Mr James Pawsey (Rugby).

Mrs Margaret Thatcher who, when the Tories were in opposition often argued for a new rating system, will not that all the sponsors of the Bill were elected in 1979.

Peace talks fail in Ford drivers' strike

By Edward Townsend

The strike by 440 Ford lorry drivers which has forced the company to lay off 15,000 production workers is to continue after a failure to reach agreement at talks yesterday between union and management officials.

Production losses at Ford's United Kingdom plants since last Thursday are estimated at 2,250 Cortinas and Fiestas and 500 Transit vans, with a combined value of £11.5m.

Mr Ronald Todd, national officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Ford unions' chief negotiator, is to address the strikers today on the outcome of the talks, but a swift end to the dispute is not expected.

The strikers are demanding compensation because of a company decision to curtail their trips across the Channel to deliver parts to the Ford plant at Genk, Belgium. The reduction in foreign visits has meant a loss of some allowances and of the drivers' chances of buying duty-free goods.

Mr Todd yesterday denied that the "perks" issue was central to the dispute and alleged that the company had failed to honour an agreement.

The company said yesterday that if the strike by drivers is prolonged, the rest of the workforce of 56,000 might be affected.

New governor is to tighten jail security

Continued from page 1

"In the circumstances the governor, Mr Selby, must himself accept, and very properly does accept, the principal responsibility." But the responsibility for the escape could not be laid only at Mr Selby's door.

"The weaknesses and errors in performance of all members of staff concerned have been brought home to them; where appropriate they have been transferred to other establishments or other duties within the establishment." Any wider lessons for the prison service would be followed up.



Mr Pearson: Move from Gartree.

Mr Whitelaw has asked Mr William Pearce, the new Chief Inspector of Prisons, to inspect the prison later this year to see that the recommendations of the report have been effectively put into operation.

Two men have been remanded on charges connected with the escape. Stanley Thompson, aged 35, of Rainham, London, was charged with escaping and with conspiring to effect the escape of prisoners from Brixton.

Richard Thomas Moody, aged 40, a plumber, of Rosendale Gardens, West Dulwich, London, was accused of conspiring with James Moody, his jailed brother, to effect the escape of his brother, Mr Tuite, and Mr Thompson. He was also charged with aiding his brother to escape by giving him hacksaw blades, masonry drills, and screwdrivers.

Mr Whitelaw said yesterday that the record of Brixton, including that of Mr Selby and his staff, had previously been one of real achievement in difficult circumstances.

For Mr Selby, who was regarded as a rising star within the prison service, the Brixton episode is a great misfortune. He has a firm belief in the traditions of the service and ruled with old-style panache, which forged a firm partnership with his chief officer.



Mr Selby: Accepts main responsibility.

But he combined that with an imaginative interest in some of the more progressive ideas spawned by penal reformers. With his zest for life, which includes the game of squash and a fascination with hombre, one of the more obscure but complicated card games, he can be expected to bounce back.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Photograph by Peter Trievnor

Mr Anthony Ridley, managing director of the London Underground, talking at Gloucester Road station to one of the staff carrying out a survey of 500,000 passengers throughout the system, to help planning.

Remand rule should go, justices say

By Frances Gibb

Magistrates favour dropping the remand rule under which prisoners must appear before the courts every eight days, the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee, which is investigating the prison department, was told yesterday.

Mr Edgar Bradley, chairman of the Magistrates Association's legal committee, said that where that rule had been dropped in a high security court at Lambeth, London, considerable staff time and public money had been saved.

He was replying to Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York, who said the Home Office was considering whether the rule could be suspended in the long term because it had not been fully operated during the prison officers' dispute.

Mr Bradley said that although the association had no precise statistics about how the suspension was working, in Camberwell Magistrates' Court, where he sat, large numbers of prisoners were not being produced.

Dr Douglas Acres, chairman of the association's committee on sentencing of offenders, said that in his area, between Southend and Basildon, he estimated that about half the hearings were taking place without the prisoners' presence.

Dr Acres added that there was a danger that if prisoners were not present less interest would be taken in the progress of their cases. "What we need is an effective monitoring machinery on the system to ensure that cases are proceeding. But the fruitless journeys from prisons to courts that have been going throughout the land are not in fact needed."

He said that the basic right of the people to come before the courts if they wished should remain. "But if the bail-custody decision has been fully explored and they are legally represented, and there is nothing more to be said at that stage and their case is going ahead as rapidly as possible, I see no point in their being produced."

The association also supports the use of detoxification centres to cope with alcohol-related offences

Seamen are 'talking to another line'

By Our Labour Staff

The two sides in the seamen's dispute remained deadlocked last night with about 200 ships of about 1,200 in the British merchant fleet held up because of industrial action.

The National Union of Seamen, which has reached a settlement with one group, Canadian Pacific, and says it has settled with two other small companies, asserted last night that it had begun negotiations with another "well known name" in British shipping with a view to a separate settlement.

Mr John Whitworth, deputy director general of the General Council of British Shipping, said last night: "The NUS know very well, that we are more than willing to talk to them about any restructuring of our 12 per cent offer."

TV staff 'outrage' at loss of Southern franchise

By a Staff Reporter

Southern Television, deprived of its franchise by the Independent Broadcasting Authority in December, has protested to the authority about its "summary dismissal without previous warning or complaint", something, it said, that had never happened in the history of independent television.

Mr David Wilson, chairman of Southern, said in a letter to Lord Thomson of Monifieth, the IBA's new chairman, that the decision defied every concept of natural justice.

He expressed the sense of "astonishment, outrage and injustice" felt by the staff and said they had not at the time made any derogatory comment about the other applicants.

"Perhaps we should have done. Perhaps we should have expressed some professional doubts about a promise to produce regularly a total of 1,500 hours a year, far more than any ITV company has ever done.

Oxford health authority may escape blacklist

By Nicholas Timmins

Oxford Area Health Authority, which has been breaking national agreements on doctors' terms and conditions of service, may now escape being blacklisted by the British Medical Association.

However, an outline agreement reached yesterday with the BMA could mean a reduction in the number of family planning operations from next April.

Representatives of the BMA and the area health authority yesterday reached "a large measure of agreement" over disputes involving family planning fees, payment for study leave and removal expenses, and provision of locums for doctors on leave.

The agreement has to be put in writing and ratified by the BMA's executive tomorrow.

The health authority has agreed to abide by the national agreements, including negotiating with the doctors over the number of fees it will pay next year for family planning operations.

Hospital doctors are entitled to between £20 and £40 for those operations but this year's £35,000 allocation was spent by last October.

The authority stopped all such payments, since when doctors have either ceased performing the operations or have done them free of charge.

A spokesman for the health authority conceded that because of the need to reduce projected overspending of £500,000 *on medical staffing, the number* of fees to be paid from April might be restricted.

Mr Michael Lowe, head of the BMA's hospitals division, said: "It will be up to individual consultants whether they are prepared to do the procedures and not be paid.

"If insufficient funds are allocated and these operations are not performed, the health authority should make clear to the public that the Government is not allocating sufficient funds to carry out all the work needed."

On the issue of locums, the health authority still intends to reduce the number it employs but will not attempt to change the terms of existing junior doctor contracts.

Dispute halts newspaper

The *Derby Evening Telegraph* failed to appear yesterday after five process workers refused to start operating modern equipment at the newspaper's new premises.

The management said that publication was impossible because the five workers, members of the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers, were in dispute over pay and conditions.

Detective involved in fraud conspiracy, court is told

A robbery squad detective was arrested in his office at Scotland Yard as he negotiated a £45,000 swindle, Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Worsley said Det Sergeant Alexander McCallum took part in a plot to obtain the money from Mr David Sullivan, who was accused of brothel keeping and living off immoral earnings. In return, Mr Sullivan was told, a police officer would give perjured evidence that would result in his acquittal.

When Mr Sullivan's predicament became known, Mr Worsley added, Sergeant McCallum and three other men hatched a plot in which they all pretended they were senior police officers with power to help him by bringing perjured evidence.

Mr Sullivan was suspicious and wanted assurance that two of the men were police officers, which they were not.

The conspirators, counsel said, arranged for Sergeant McCallum to answer telephone calls from Mr Sullivan at Scotland Yard pretending to be a chief superintendent.

Mr Sullivan was still not satisfied and employed a private detective, who uncovered the plot.

Sergeant McCallum, of Chiltern Avenue, Bushey, Hertfordshire, has denied conspiring to defraud Mr Sullivan and dishonestly obtaining £5,000.

Gary Reynolds, of New Quebec Street, Marylebone, Joseph Ross, of Grosvenor Crescent, Pimlico, both London, and Cecil Kasmai, of no settled address, have denied similar charges.

The hearing continues today.

BA fights rivals' cheap fares plan

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British Airways would suffer "the death of a thousand cuts" if other British airlines were licensed on its routes on a case-by-case basis, the Civil Aviation Authority was told in London yesterday.

The authority was hearing applications from Laker Airways and British Caledonian Airways, two independent Gatwick-based airlines, for licences to fly at cheap fares between Britain and Australia. British Airways and the Australian airline, Quantas, are the main operators on the route.

Laker is proposing single fares ranging from £490 to £232, and British Caledonian single fares from £1,020 to £199, compared with BA's highest single fare of £1,439.

BA said that if the authority threw open the Australia route to other British airlines it would lead to a decline of the United Kingdom as one of the leading nations in international air transport.

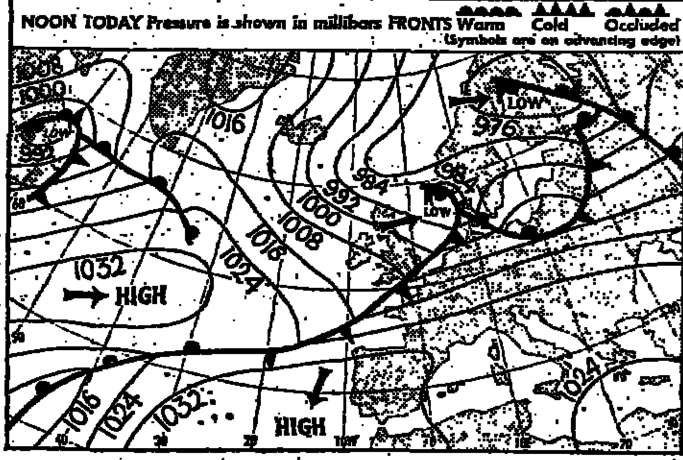
A competitive battle among British airlines would be set in motion, which would drain their resources and make them less able to compete effectively with foreign airlines.

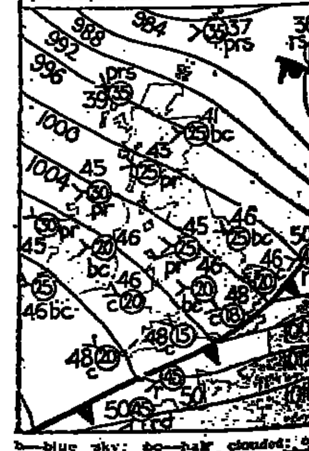
The ability of a large airline to make the most of Britain's share of world airline traffic and so aid its overseas earnings was a crucial weapon in any government's armoury in the battle for economic survival.

BA said that the Laker and Caledonian applications represented a significant point of decision for the authority. The licensing of either airline would mean that the authority was prepared, as a matter of policy, to countenance a significant reduction in the size of BA

The Australia route was the backbone of BA's route structure to the Middle East, southern Asia and beyond. The introduction of additional British airlines on the route must be at the expense of BA. If BA was directed to reduce its capacity to make way for a second or third British airline, BA would have to attempt to get rid of, or employ elsewhere, the surplus assets. That would not be easy.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 7.36 am. Sun sets: 4.54 pm
Moon rises: 6.37 am. Moon sets: 3.22 pm
New Moon: Tomorrow.

Lighting up: 5.24 pm to 7.04 am.

High water: London Bridge, 12.24 am, 6.4m; 12.53 pm, 6.4m. Avonmouth, 6.03 am, 12.0m; 6.24 pm, 12.2m. Dover, 9.55 am, 6m; 10.20 pm, 6.2m. Hull, 5.15 am, 6.6m; 5.30 pm, 6.9m. Liverpool, 10.13 am, 8.6m; 10.35 pm, 8.6m.
1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

A vigorous depression will move away E across the North Sea, followed by a colder NW airstream.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, Central S England, Channel Islands: Rain, heavy in places, brighter by afternoon with sunny periods and isolated showers; wind SW, strong to gale, veering NW, moderating; max temp 11°C (52°F).

East Anglia, Midlands, E England: Rain at first, heavy in places, becoming brighter with sunny periods and scattered showers; wind SW, strong to gale, veering NW, moderating; max temp 10°C (50°F), becoming

SW England, S Wales: Rain at first, heavy in places, becoming brighter with sunny intervals and showers; wind SW, gale or severe gale, veering NW and moderating; max temp 11°C (52°F), becoming colder.

N Wales, Central N, NW England: Rain soon clearing, sunny intervals and showers, possibly wintry on hills, later; wind W to NW, fresh or strong, locally gale at first; max temp 9°C (48°F), becoming colder.

Lake District, Isle of Man, NE *England, Borders, Edinburgh* and Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Sunny intervals and showers, wintry in places later, especially on hills, wind W to NW, strong to gale, moderating; max temp 7°C (45°F), becoming colder.

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals and squally showers, turning to sleet or snow, moderate snowfalls in places later, with considerable drifting; wind mainly W, strong or gale; max temp 5°-7°C (41°-45°F), colder later.

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Sunny intervals and snow showers, possibly heavy at first, prolonged in N and E with drifting; cold with night frost.

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind SW, gale to storm, veering NW; sea very rough.

Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, strong to severe gale, perhaps storm later; sea very rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW, gale to storm, veering NW, *strong*; sea very rough.

Yesterday

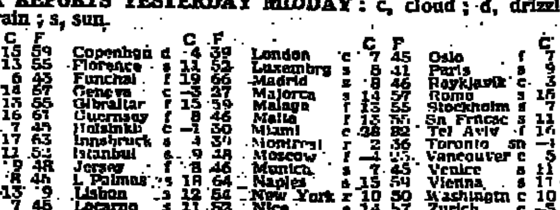
London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11°C (52°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3°C (37°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 83 per cent. Rain, 24 hours to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hours to 6 pm, 2.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,027.4 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.



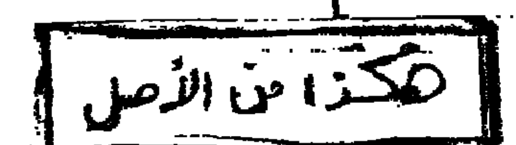
Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canada ...; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland ... 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.0; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Irish Rep IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; ... 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan JD 0.4...; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL ...; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc ...; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.5...; Singapore $4.5...; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; ... LS 5.50; Tunisia Din .450; US ...; Canada $1.50; UAE Dir ...; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.



		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	15	59	Copenhgn	d	4	39	London	c	7	45	Oslo	f	7	45
Algiers	f	13	55	Florence	s	11	52	Luxembrg	s	5	41	Paris	s	9	48
Amsterdm	r	6	43	Funchal	f	19	66	Madrid	s	8	46	Reykjavik	c	3	37
Athens	s	14	57	Geneva	c	-3	27	Majorca	s	14	57	Rome	s	16	61
Barcelona	s	13	55	Gibraltar	f	15	59	Malaga	f	13	55	Stockholm	s	7	45
Beirut	f	16	61	Guernsey	f	8	46	Malta	f	13	55	Sn Frncsc	s	11	52
Berlin	s	7	45	Helsinki	c	-1	30	Miami	c	28	82	Tel Aviv	f	16	[illegible]
Bermuda	c	17	63	Innsbruck	s	4	39	Montreal	r	2	36	Toronto	sn	-4	25
Biarritz	c	11	52	Istanbul	s	9	48	Moscow	f	-4	25	Vancouver	c	5	41
Brussels	s	9	48	Jersey	f	8	46	Munich	s	7	45	Venice	s	11	52
Budapest	s	8	46	L Palmas	s	18	64	Naples	s	15	59	Vienna	s	11	[illegible]
Chicago	f	-13	9	Lisbon	s	12	54	New York	r	10	50	Washingtn	c	10	50
Cologne	s	7	45	Locarno	s	11	52	Nice	s	14	57	Zurich	c	-5	23



HOME NEWS

Miners in Yorkshire vote to fight pit closures with strikes

From Ronald Kershaw
Barnsley

Yorkshire miners have voted overwhelmingly to give their leaders permission to call for industrial action, including strike action if necessary, to fight colliery closures for reasons other than exhaustion of coal seams.

Of the 66,000 miners in the Yorkshire area. 52,171 took part in the ballot and 44,674, or 85.6 per cent, voted in favour of permission being granted and 7,497 voted against, a result Mr Owen Briscoe, the Yorkshire general secretary, said was better than expected.

Announcing the result from the Electoral Reform Society, Mr Briscoe said it showed the high feeling about the threat to miners' jobs. He emphasized that the last thing the Yorkshire area council wanted was to activate the mandate given. "We do not want strikes or industrial action", he said.

The National Coal Board has closed a number of pits in Yorkshire and has constantly under review what it classifies as "short life" pits.

It is talking with the unions about the closure of Orgreave Colliery, South Yorkshire. It says it has no formal list of pits to be closed.

The recession had caused a decline in the market for coal and a meeting between the board and the unions had been called for February 10 to discuss the future of the industry.

The board said there would be a wide-ranging review, with the aim, almost inevitably, of reducing levels of output next year.

"What form hat will take we cannot speculate on. The industry is back in the melting pot. Our efforts in the *Plan for Coal* in the early 1970s are beginning to pay off and we are betting better rates of productivity and production. The trouble is, nobody wants the coal", the board said.

Coal import ban: A ban on coal imports was urged yesterday by the executive committee of Scotland's colliery craftsmen's union, who decided to oppose pit closures and redundancies (our Shotts Correspondent writes)

After a meeting in Glasgow Mr Frank Gormill, general secretary of the Scottish Colliery Enginemen, Boilermen and Tradesmen's Association, said: "It is planned to import eight million tonnes of coal this year. At the same time the National Coal Board will be stockpiling six million tonnes because of the recession."

Jail for video pirates demanded

By Kenneth Gosling

Video piracy should be treated as theft and brought within the criminal law and offenders should face a maximum penalty of 14 years' imprisonment.

That is one of the aims of the Video Copyright Protection Society, set up by the BBC, the Independent Television Companies Association and the Society of Film Distributors, which have combined to deal with a growing abuse that costs the film and television industries hundreds of thousands of pounds a year.

Video piracy, the taping and subsequent sale of film and television material without authority, was defined at a press conference in London yesterday by Mr Peter Lord, chief executive of the society, as "pinching someone else's creative work and making money out of it".

Piracy could not be stopped altogether, he said, but what had brought it into the limelight was the advent of the video-recorder; at the end of 1980 there were about half a million machines in Britain alone and it was estimated that in the next five years that figure would multiply eight-fold.

"Our target", Mr Lord said, "is not primarily the person who records in his home: he is not the pirate. What we are after is the person who records illegally to sell on.

"It has become a considerable export trade. In those countries that use the PAL 625 system, London has become the centre for pirate recordings. Benny Hill and *Fawlty Towers* have turned up in many places.

"In the United States alone it is a business worth $650m a year. In this country five million cassettes are floating around and a high number are being used to record things without paying the people who own them."

The need was to tidy up the law, which to some extent had been overtaken by technology; there was a copyright, Mr Lord said, in all films and all broadcasts.

Last summer a firm in Southsea had more than 450 cassettes impounded and had to pay £1,000 in costs. Injunctions and damages had been awarded against others.

In a statement the society appealed to the public to ensure that the cassette recordings they bought were legitimate. Mr Barrie Heads, the society's chairman, said that people were coming to Britain, setting themselves up with copying machinery and returning to all parts of the world with British material.

In brief

Chocolate bar thief fined £100

A student was fined £100 by magistrates at Hendon, north London, yesterday, for stealing a £1.30 bar of chocolate from a shop.

Athanasios Kouskos, aged 29, of Hodford Road, Golders Green, who was said to have put the chocolate in his pocket and left the shop without paying, agreed that he was sent £650 every two months by his family in Athens. He was ordered to pay £40 immediately and the balance of the fine within seven days.

Stab charge remand

Gary Stokes, aged 18, of Ellerby Green, Middlesbrough, was remanded in custody for a week by Teesside magistrates yesterday, accused of stabbing Mr Gregory Brown, aged 21, a Crystal Palace supporter, in an incident near the Middlesbrough football ground on Saturday.

Lakes supermarket

A £1m redevelopment scheme by British Rail and E. H. Booth and Co to build a supermarket on the site of Windermere station was approved yesterday by the Lake District Special Planning Board development control committee. It will include the renovation of the *station buildings.*

Plane's tail found

Coastguards have found the tail section of the Dutch Atlantique maritime reconnaissance aircraft which crashed off the Scottish coast with the loss of three crewmen last month. It was found on Sandray Island, in the Western Isles.

£30,000 castle raid

Burglars who raided the sixteenth-century Grimsthorpe Castle, near Bourne, Lincolnshire, took paintings and silverware valued at more than £30,000 belonging to Lord Ancaster. They cut 10 oil paintings from their frames.

Arsonist strikes

A family of six in Milton Road, Rotherham, south Yorkshire, were taken to hospital yesterday after someone started a fire in a shop below their rooms. Mr Liquat Ali, his wife and four children were treated for minor burns.

Bargain homes

Twenty three-bedroom, semi-detached houses at Baglan, South Wales, have been sold for prices as low as £3,500. Building societies refused mortgages because of subsidence fears, but surveyors later cleared the houses.

'Pint-size hero' wins citizen award

By David Nicholson-Lord

A school boy agd nine who helped to rescue his disabled mother and baby sister from their blazing home was yesterday named joint youngest Citizen of the Year for his courage and coolness.

Stuart Bell, of Swindon, Wiltshire, was one of 50 people aged between nine and eighteen who shared in awards and commendations under the Caxton Young Citizens' Awards scheme, run by Caxton Publications and the Ross McWhirter Foundation.

Presentations in the second year of the scheme were made at the Mansion House, London, by Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, the Lord Mayor, and by several judges, including Mr Angus Ogilvy, Dame Anna Neagle and Miss Joanna Lumley, the actresses, and Mrs Rosemary McWhirter, Mr McWhirter's widow.

The ceremony was televised and will be broadcast next month by the BBC.

Stuart Bell, then aged eight, was playing hide-and-seek with his sister Julie, aged two, last September when fire broke out in their mother's bedroom.

He telephoned the fire brigade, found his sister upstairs and "piggy-backed" her outside, helped his mother, who has an artificial leg, outside and then ran for help to neighbours.

Afterwards he earned the title of "pint-size hero" from local newspapers by filling a milk bottle with water and trying to put the fire out.

The other joint winner in the youngest category, for those aged between nine and eleven, was Jason Kilby, aged 11, who has been an "ambassador at large" for Stoke Mandeville hospital, Buckinghamshire.

The winner in the 12-14 age group was Hayley West, of Ipswich, who suffered from bone cancer and has had a leg amputated but has raised more than £12,000 towards an X-ray scanner

Vivien Martin, aged 15, won in the senior age group for her work with handicapped people in Fife.

A special team award was won by two disabled young people: Sandra Ritchie, aged 16, who suffers from Down's syndrome, and Sharon Dyer, aged 14, who is confined to a cheelchair with hemiplegia and has had both legs and haxds amputated. The girls, both from Berkshire, have raised more than £4,000 for charity by sponsored swims and bicycle rides.

Described as "astoundingly cheerful" although he has been paralysed from the waist down since he was two, he has raised thousands of pounds for the hospital

The winners, chosen from more than 250 nominations, received an expenses-paid, three-day trip to London, a £150 cheque and a set of encyclopaedias, as well as a silver medal.

Photograph by Peter Trievnor

The seat of honour yesterday for Stuart Bell, aged nine, and his rescued sister Julie.

School meal criticism 'misguided'

From John Chartres
Manchester

The chairman of Lancashire County Council's education committee replied yesterday to an allegation by Mr Jack Straw, Labour MP for Blackburn, that children in his constituency's primary schools were served worse meals than those eaten by workhouse vagrants fifty years ago.

Councillor Michael Fitzherbert-Brockholes said: "I am appalled at Mr Straw's uninformed criticism of Lancashire school meals. Our meals in primary schools are nutritious, good value, and enjoyed by the children who eat them.

"Parents have been given full details of the menu for 'simpler meals'.

"The meal which has been criticized consisted of a hot dog (a sausage with onion in a roll) and a cornflake tart, which is a pastry tart with jam and a filling of cornflakes and syrup.

"Misguided criticism of the sort made by Mr Straw can only weaken the confidence of parents in our service and demoralize the staff."

Mr Straw alleged at the weekend that the menu for a primary school last Thursday consisted of one sausage, two slices of bread, a cornflake cake and a glass of water.

The workhouse menu in Blackburn 50 years ago, he said, comprised eight ounces of bread, two ounces of cooked or tinned meat, two ounces of cheese, four ounces of potatoes, and fruit.

Nutritional benefit: A nutrition expert yesterday said the school meal was probably better than the traditional meat and two vegetables (the Press Association reports).

Professor Arnold Bender, head of the nutrition department at Queen Elizabeth College, London, said the meat provided 760 calories.

'Price ring' blamed for high cost of milk

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Doorstep delivery of milk was too easy for the inefficient and too profitable for the efficient". Sir John Sainsbury, chairman of the J. Sainsbury supermarket group, said yesterday.

He said that dairymen operated a "price ring" which forced British householders to pay the highest milk prices in the EEC while British farmers received some of the lowest.

Sir John said at a farmers' meeting at Sparsholt, Hampshire: "I do not think either the producer or the consumer is getting a good deal". Grocers were prevented from offering milk bargains while the prices of milk rose faster than those of other foods.

"I would estimate that in the last five years milk delivery costs have increased by about 120 per cent, compared with a retail price index rise of 90 per cent. The price of milk today is 23 per cent higher than a year ago, while current food prices, excluding milk, are only 7 per cent up".

Sir John, a great-grandson of the founder of his company, is a marketing adviser to Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. J. Sainsbury is one of the few grocery chains that have managed to sell milk at less than the doorstep delivery price. Sir John's comments are likely to reflect the views of the minister, who is negotiating with dairymen a reform of the system

He also criticized the statutory Potato Marketing Board, which is responsible for maintaining supplies and quality of potatoes at reasonable prices. A survey by government advisers had shown that only 24 per cent of potatoes were correctly graded.

Blockade of EEC ports threatened by fishermen

From Our Correspondent
Aberdeen

European ports may face a fishermen's blockade this month if there is not a quick settlement of the dispute over the EEC common fisheries policy.

Trade unions representing fishermen in the EEC plan to issue an ultimatum to the Council of Ministers meeting in Brussels on February 9 urging it to settle the matter

The decision to go for direct action comes after a meeting last week in Brussels of union representatives from seven countries represented on the EEC's joint committee on social problems in sea fishing.

Yesterday Scottish fishermen at the white fish port of Fraserburgh, who blocked fish landings from the Icelandic cargo boat, Baeparfoss, decided to continue their action until Macfisheries, the local processing firm, agreed not to take any more foreign caught white concerted action.

EXIT committal date is fixed

Committal proceedings against two members of EXIT, the society campaigning for legalized euthanasia, will start on April 14, magistrates at Hendon, north London, said yesterday. Nicholas Reed, aged 33, general secretary of EXIT, and Mark Lyons, aged 69, face various charges of helping suicides, and Mr Lyons also faces a charge of murder. Mr Reed was allowed bail and Mr Lyons was remanded in custody until Monday

Students from Oak Hill Theological College, Southgate, north London, demonstrated outside

Whitehall brief: Thinking through the unthinkable

Facing disorder without a riot Act

By Peter Hennessy

There are more cheerful ways of spending a murky winter's day on Merseyside than in contemplating the role of the Armed Forces should civil disorder afflict the mainland of the United Kingdom in anything like the manner it blights life in Northern Ireland.

The group of policemen, soldiers, civil servants and scholars who mustered last week under the auspices of the law faculty of Liverpool University could have been better occupied, some might argue, in not thinking the unthinkable and adding to the plentiful stock of national gloom.

But the prospect of the country slithering into its first national water strike, plus the still-green memory of the Commons Select Committee on Welsh Affairs warning the Government that serious social disorder could occur in Wales if ministers failed to ameliorate unemployment, gave the conference at least a mild sense of timeliness.

A contribution of considerable practical value was made by Colonel Robin Evelegh, former commander of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, who has served two tours in Northern Ireland. He spent a year as a defence fellow at Oxford University thinking about it and left the Army in 1977 in order to publish his results which alarmed ministers and which the Ministry of Defence had, he says, decided to suppress.

Colonel Evelegh, now a director of an international trading and transport company, is convinced of the need for the law to be looked at in quiet times, like the present. For although he thinks civil breakdown is unlikely in Britain, it is at least possible in the next 70 years.

He is concerned to preserve Western democracy "to which I am addicted" by ensuring that society can protect itself from internal terrorist or subversive minorities without recourse to a "strong man", detention without trial, and "legalized violence", as he describes hanging and flogging. Those, should they materialize, would lead to the end of domestic liberty.

The Army, he says, would only get sucked in if the police became discredited in the eyes of a substantial section of the population in a particular locality after a very serious race riot or large scale industrial disturbance.

His book on the Northern Ireland experience lists a number of technical and legal provisions to strengthen the Army's hand without bringing tyranny in tow. One of those provisions, the value of a modern equivalent of the Riot Act, 1714, repealed in 1967, he believes is of relevance to possible trouble on the mainland.

"In effect, we have no law in the area of the control of rioting. This is very dangerous." He would like the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs to look at it, because only a clear set of stages, easily understood by both troops and mob, has, he believes, any chance of dispersing a severe street disorder without broken *heads or worse.*

Colonel Evelegh made clear after the conference that in addition to his not foreseeing serious disorder requiring military involvement, the British Army was singularly free of "caged Cromwells" just itching for a *coup d'etat.*

During the miners' strike of 1974, when such talk was being floated in the newspapers, he asked his sergeants to inquire among the men, many of whom were from mining areas, what they thought about the subject. Of 100 "squaddies" questioned, only two knew there was a strike on at all.

"I could be happy that the Army was politically inert", Colonel Evelegh recalled with a cheerful smile.

Peace-Keeping in a Democratic Society. The Lessons of Northern Ireland. C. Hurst and Company (1-2 Henrietta Street, London WC2E 8PS, £9.)



Colonel Robin Evelegh: Against "legalized violence".

Arsonists attack another cottage in Wales

From Our Correspondent
Llandudno

An Englishman's cottage which is not a holiday home has been attacked by arsonists in the village of Waunfawr, near Caernarfon. There have been more than forty incidents since the campaign against holiday homes began

The cottage is owned by Mr Richard Bird, originally from London, who is supervisor of the Dutch elm disease project for Gwynedd County Council. Intruders climbed through a back window during the weekend when Mr Bird, his wife and three children were away.

A villager said it was believed Mr Bird was unhappy about aspects of the county's bilingual education authority, and that that could be behind the incident. However, Mr Bird said: "I am not anti-Welsh, and there is no hostility in the village. My mother is Welsh.

Meanwhile, at Capel Garmon, near Llanrwst, police were last night awaiting the arrival of forensic scientists to examine an incendiary device. It was found in the bedroom of a holiday cottage owned by a doctor from Salford

HOME NEWS

Labour councillors to fight surcharge move over pay deal

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

A single vote majority at a Labour group meeting led to the possibility that about thirty Labour councillors on Camden Council, in London, could be surcharged thousands of pounds each for approving an "unlawful" pay settlement two years ago.

In a report into payments to manual workers during the "dirty jobs" dispute which were above those set by national negotiations, the District Auditor has decided to refer the matter to the courts and ask for a declaration that the extra payments authorized by the council were unlawful.

The report, by Mr I. M. Pickwell, due to be published today, is understood to state that the councillors acted beyond their powers, and therefore illegally, in settling for a guaranteed minimum of £60 a week for the council's manual workers.

Estimates of the cost vary, but councillors could be liable for up to perhaps £60,000 each, nearly £2m in total, and liable to disqualification from office if it is decided that their action was unlawful.

The councillors will consider their response at a meeting tomorrow, but have already decided to fight the case in the courts. Mr Andrew Bethell, who as chairman of the staff committee helped to make the deal, said yesterday that such a huge bill could have a catastrophic effect on members. "I do not think all of us together are worth £2m. It could mean bankruptcy."

They would be defending their action because they believed it was lawful and also because it was a reasonable decision to make in the circumstances. He was concerned at the prospects for individual councillors.

"Some have contracts which state that a ground for dismissal would be bankruptcy. Even though we have a good defence, nobody is regarding it as a foregone conclusion that we shall win, or that this is something to treat lightly".

An important consideration, if the councillors are found to have exceeded their powers, is whether they are liable only for the financial year 1978-79 or for the whole period since the settlement.

Camden has 33 Labour councillors, but it is believed that only 28 or 29 voted for the action in the full council. Although at the previous group meeting the decision was won by only one vote, its opponents fell into line for the full council vote.

The Labour councillors face another difficulty, whether to recommend a rise in council rents. They are under criticism for the council's failure to raise rents sufficiently in the past, and they have now been advised that if they do not increase rents by £3.25—the Government's guideline, that issue, too, could go to court.

There have been occasional cases where councillors have been surcharged comparatively small amounts, in hundreds of pounds; but the last time a surcharge of such magnitude was imposed was when 11 Labour members of Clay Cross council refused to raise council house rents in accordance with the Housing Finance Act, 1972. They were surcharged £63,000, disqualified from holding public office and, in 1975, made bankrupt.

Six of the former councillors were discharged from bankruptcy last year after Chesterfield County Court heard that only about £400 had been paid by three councillors. The rest of the debt had been recovered from a levy on rents and rates.



Cardinal Hume: "I want peace and solitude".

Lack of wife is felt by cardinal

Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, spoke yesterday about the difficulties of his life of celibacy. "There are times and occasions when it would be marvellous to have a wife", he said.

The cardinal added that he believed celibacy to be essential for Roman Catholic priests so that they could devote their lives to serving God, but he would sometimes like to have a wife, "to support and to help and to whom one could talk confidentially and in intimacy about what was a worry, what was an anxiety and what was burdening".

His comments came in an independent television film, previewed in London, about his life. The film will be shown on February 24.

Cardinal Hume, who is aged 57, said he has had at last to give up sport. He has been an all-round sportsman all his life, but is suffering from hip trouble caused by arthritis.

He added that he hoped to retire at 65 to find "peace and solitude".

Ulster Unionists' fears are rekindled by Thatcher reticence on Dublin summit

From Craig Seton
Belfast

Deep suspicion held by the Unionists over the summit talks in Dublin last December was kindled again yesterday when Mrs Margaret Thatcher repeated the nature of the joint studies which will provide the basis for next round of talks with Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister of the Irish Republic.

Mrs Thatcher said that the studies had started, but otherwise her Commons written reply went not much farther than the Dublin communiqué. It was the brevity of her reply that angered the Democratic Unionist Party. It claimed she had "something to hide".

The Prime Minister reiterated that the studies concerned "possible new institutional structures, citizenship rights, security matters, economic co-operation and measures to encourage mutual understanding". Progress would be reported to ministers before she met Mr Haughey in May or June.

Mr Peter Robinson, the Democratic Unionist MP for East Belfast, who put down the question to Mrs Thatcher, said last night that he was even more alarmed because of the Prime Minister's refusal to give more information or debate the issue in the House.

There was alarm over the phrase "the totality of relationships within these islands", used in the Dublin communiqué, which must mean that Northern Ireland's constitutional position was being discussed, he said.

His party would go ahead with the campaign to make it clear to the people what was being done behind their backs. "We will do everything to thwart a campaign from Dublin which is obviously leading to an all-Ireland republic."

Mr James Molyneaux, MP for Antrim, South, and leader of the Official Unionists, said the supervision of the studies by senior officials was not good enough; it should be done by Cabinet ministers.

UDA under study: Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is studying remarks made by Mr Andrew Tyrie, chairman of the paramilitary Ulster Defence Association, to decide whether the organization should be banned.

In a radio interview Mr Tyrie had described his "loyalist" group as a counter-terrorist organization which, he said, might have to "terrorize the terrorists" and break international law by chasing them across the border.

Death penalty call: The Rev Robert Bradford, the Official Unionist MP for Belfast, South, yesterday saw Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to ask him to use the Treason Act, 1351, to enable the death penalty to be used against terrorists who murdered members of the security forces.

Man's hands 'cut off in garage'

A killer who was "shaking and panicking" asked a friend to clear the blood from the garage where a dead man's hands had been cut off, it was stated at the "handless corpse" trial at Lancaster Crown Court yesterday.

Det Chief Inspector William Hacking said that a statement was made by William Kerby, aged 27, one of four men who deny murdering Mr Martin Johnstone.

Mr Hacking said that Mr Kirby told the police: "It was horrible. There was blood all over the floor. It nearly made me sick. I had to mix it with sand and cement to clear it up".

Mr Kirby said he was asked to clean up by Andrew Maher, who has pleaded guilty to the killing, which the Crown says was Mr Johnstone's punishment for cheating an international drug syndicate. His body was found in a water-filled quarry.

Cross-examined by Mr John Hugill, QC, representing Mr Kirby, Mr Hacking denied he was "willing to go as far as necessary to get a confession out of Kirby".

He denied that Mr Kirby was slapped in the face, or that he was threatened with a beating if he did not answer questions. He also denied a suggestion from Mr Hugill that when Mr Kirby asked about his rights he was told: "You have got no rights."

The trial continues today.

Trial delay appalling, judge says

A man who claimed to be Britain's longest serving remand prisoner had waited in custody more than 19 months for his case to come to the Central Criminal Court, a judge there was told yesterday.

John Eidemack, aged 41, a Danish-born businessman, was jailed for two years after admitting fraud in running a mail order cassette and tape company.

Judge Buzzard said that the delay in bringing the case to trial was "appalling". Most of it was probably due to the length of committal proceedings, at which Mr Eidemack was represented by counsel. "Fifty days seems an incredible time."

Mr Nigel Cockburn, for the defence, said: "He has been in custody over 19 months and has been told in prison that that is an English record except for one prisoner who was involved in a series of trials. But that prisoner did not have to wait 19 months for his first trial."

Mr Brian Higgs, QC, for the prosecution, said Mr Eidemack had been managing director of Dindy Marketing (London) Ltd, which owed £550,000 when it was wound up in 1977. From the end of 1976 until August, 1977, three types of fraud were being carried out.

Mr Eidemack pleaded guilty to 11 counts involving evasion of debts by fraud, obtaining goods by fraud, and one count of carrying on the business with intent to defraud creditors.

His plea of not guilty to a second count of carrying on the business fraudulently over a different period was accepted, as were his not guilty pleas to 18 counts on a second fraud indictment relating to the affairs of Chorelynn, a direct mail company.

Mr Eidemack was arrested the day after an item about him appeared in the *That's Life* BBC television programme. He had also been the subject of investigation by the *Checkpoint* inquiry programme on BBC Radio.

Video record traps three thieves

A judge at Beverley Crown Court, Humberside, watched a videotape recording of a £31,000 robbery on a jeweller's shop and told the three raiders yesterday: "You played your parts well".

Judge Michael Barker was told that it was a carefully executed robbery, but police immediately identified the three when they watched the recording

Mr Paul Hoffman for the prosecution said 20 rings had been taken

Leslie Clark, aged 20, of Halewood, Liverpool, and Paul Granite, aged 27, of Horbury, Wakefield, were each jailed for two years and Anthony McMull two years and Anthony McMullen, aged 22, also of Halewood, was jailed for three years after admitting robbing the shop, in Bridlington, Humberside.

Michael Mooney, aged 31, of Walkworth Court, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, was given a nine-month suspended sentence and fined £500 for receiving two of the stolen rings.

Strong union support for Lambeth protest

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Council workers in Lambeth, London, where ratepayers have received an average £50 supplementary rate demand, yesterday began a "week of action" which will leave the dustbins unemptied and the streets unswept.

In addition the council's direct labour force has gone on strike for the week, and the libraries are closed, while housing and consumer advice centres are operating work-ins without pay.

The action is to demonstrate total opposition to the Government's policy of cuts in local government spending, and is to reach its climax with a demonstration and rally tomorrow.

Representatives of the manual unions said the response was almost 100 per cent, and the "white collar" union, the National and Local Government Officers' Association, claimed that about half their 4,000 members would be involved.

The action has the wholehearted support of Mr Ted Knight, the council leader, and the other Labour councillors. Mr Knight commented: "The council and the workers are under attack from all angles. This action shows the people care very much about the services they provide."

He said he sympathized with the anger of the ratepayers at having to pay more. "Of course, we do not like to pay extra rates, but this action shows what would happen if services were taken away altogether."

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, had wanted a reduction of a quarter in the council's budget. If that had been done services would not exist, Mr Knight argued.

Mr Michael Waller, branch secretary of Nalgo, told a press conference: "We are trying to persuade the Government to have a total change in policy. The way the Government has squeezed the council means that unless the trade unions in this borough are successful we can see quite disastrous consequences in terms of cuts in services and redundancies."

Solent landing: The Southern Cross, first in service 38 years ago and believed to be the last British-built flying boat still airworthy, moored to a buoy after touching down in the Solent yesterday to cheers from hundreds of spectators. The four-engine Short Sandringham had flown from co Clare, in the Irish Republic, in the final leg of a transatlantic crossing from the Virgin Islands. It was purchased by British enthusiasts after the death of its owner, Captain Charles Blair, husband of Maureen O'Hara, the actress. They overhauled it and flew it to Ireland via Newfoundland. Captain Ronald Gillies was at the controls yesterday and taxied the Southern Cross to a mooring off Calshot, Hampshire, accompanied by a small flotilla and a Royal Navy rescue helicopter

Picket line halts patients' holiday

A week's seaside holiday for three elderly hospital patients was cancelled yesterday after pickets turned away a bus which was to pick them up. Staff have been occupying Longworth hospital, Oxfordshire, for more than two months in protest against plans to shut one of the two floors.

The pickets, all members of the Confederation of Health Services Employees, said, they feared that if the patients were allowed to go they would not return to the hospital.

Brothers who hit injured PC fined £200 each

Two brothers who assaulted former Constable Stephen Hickling, the officer who lost part of an arm in a bomb blast at a London police station, were fined £200 each and given three month suspended prison sentences by the Bromley magistrates yesterday. Each was ordered to pay £75 costs.

Reginald Nicholas Parker, aged 20, of Cobden Road, Snodland, Kent, and Raymond Parker, aged 26, of Nightingale Road, Woolwich, south-east London, admitted the assault.

Mr Reginald Parker also admitted assaulting Mrs Lorraine Hickling, and his brother pleaded guilty to assaulting the couple's friend, Mr Alex McCall.

The court was told that in Orpington, Kent, last November Mr Hickling approached three men after a plastic cone had been thrown at his car. In a dispute that followed Mrs Hickling was hit and her husband and Mr McCall were punched.

Warming up in the battle for Sunday readers

Regional report

Ronald Faux

Glasgow

Trade unions willing, a new newspaper will whisk into life next April from the Outram presses in Glasgow, first runner in the rekindled competition for Sunday readership in Scotland. Outram, publisher of *The Glasgow Herald*, is anxious to beat *The Scotsman*, based in Edinburgh, which is also studying the market for a quality Sunday newspaper in Scotland.

Meanwhile, the *Sunday Mail* in Glasgow is about to increase staff and size to defend its 750,000 circulation against competition from colour supplements which are expected from the *Sunday Express* and the *Sunday Mirror*, and the possibility of a Sunday paper from Associated Newspapers, as a stablemate to the *Daily Mail*.

All those will be bound to have an impact on the Scottish market which has been losing Sunday readers at the rate of about 100,000 a year for the past six years. The most dramatic example was the case of the Express group which moved from Albion Street to print in Manchester. Since then the Scottish *Sunday Express* has lost half its circulation, which once reached 600,000 copies.

The key question is whether the new Scottish newspaper will win readers from the London-based quality Sundays, which between them sell about 250,000 copies north of the border. The target circulation for the new Outram paper has been set at 175,000, less than the combined readership of *The Glasgow Herald* and *The Scotsman*.

Past experience has been that Scots who buy both a Scottish Sunday newspaper and a London quality, tend to economize by cancelling the Scottish product whenever the price of the London product increases.

There is also an invisible division between east and west Scotland that makes the two halves fairly impenetrable to the opposition, although both *The Glasgow Herald* and *The Scotsman* can fairly claim to be national newspapers for Scotland. If the new Glasgow-based Sunday paper, as yet unnamed, bears the slightest trace of a western bias, it is likely to run into that barrier.

All market research suggests there is an area of readership and advertising which is unserved and that a quality newspaper with a distinctly Scottish flavour could thrive. What must make the contenders pause is the certainty that no one has either the resources or the time to produce a newspaper of the depth, coverage and variety of *The Sunday Times* or *The Observer*, based on a Scottish readership alone.

The new Sunday newspaper has precious little time before launching day. Some staff are to be transferred from *The Glasgow Herald* and its sister newspaper the *Evening Times*, and about 50 extra jobs are to be provided.

It will allow Outram to broaden the company's revenue base and to use more of the high capacity in its new headquarters in Albion Street.

Converting the building, once used by the Express group, installing new technology and high wage settlements have put heavy financial pressure on the company, which is budgeting for a loss this year of about £2m. Last year, profit was about £250,000 per month.

The company calculates that as the recession turns and productivity from new technology increases, the financial picture will change swiftly, enhancing the future for all three publications.

But if the new newspaper proved to be attacking the already well subscribed middle market in Scotland, and does not attract top class readership and advertising, *The Scotsman* may still decide to launch a rival.

WEST EUROPE

Police looking after a wounded colleague during the violent demonstration in Hamburg last night against a nuclear power station

Calvo Sotelo warning to the party rebels

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Feb 2

Spain's political crisis deepened today making life more uncomfortable for Spaniards.

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the outgoing deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, met at his home here today with leaders of the rebel right-wing faction within the majority party, the Centre Democratic Union (UCD), in an effort to reunite the party after the resignation last Thursday of Señor Adolfo Suárez, the Prime Minister.

Señor Calvo Sotelo, nominated as Prime Minister-candidate in a party caucus in Madrid last Friday, subject to recommendation by King Juan Carlos and approval by Parliament, reportedly told dissident elements within the party that he would withdraw his candidacy unless he got unanimous support from the party's executive committee.

While Señor Suárez' lame duck government continued in office, awaiting the appointment of a new leader, the nation was engulfed in a flood of problems.

Transport was in chaos, with airport ground crews on an intermittent strike all over the country and railway workers on a stop-and-go strike combined with a work-to-rule action; air traffic controllers disrupted transport last week with a go-slow. Steelworkers and shipyard workers also struck in protest against government plans to reorganize those industries and to authorize the eventual dismissal of thousands.

Tens of thousands of Spanish fishermen were idle today also, as a result of the simultaneous termination last Saturday of fishing agreements with the EEC, Morocco and Portugal. The Government authorized the payment of compensation to the Canary Islands fishermen, the hardest hit.

Bank doors jammed with glue

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Feb 2

The door locks of about branches of West Berlin ban were jammed with glue l night. *People who had tak* part in squatters' demonst tions claimed responsibility letters to a radio station and *the West German news agen*

They said the action had be taken to allow the banks ti to think about guarantees giv to a now bankrupt constructi firm involved in a scandal t led to the resignation of t Berlin city government.

Windows of banks, depa ment stores and shops we smashed last night in oth demonstrations. Police vehic were damaged in various pa of the city by groups of peop who demanded the relea of arrested or imprison squatters. As had happen during previous incidents t protesters tried to avoid dire confrontation with the police

Dr Harlem Brundtland: Wide support in party.

Norway may get woman as Premier

Oslo, Feb 2.—Leaders of Norway's ruling Labour Party have agreed on a successor to Mr Odvar Nordli, the Prime Minister, who resigns tomorrow for health reasons after five years in office, informed sources said today.

The six leaders are to announce their choice to the party's central committee tomorrow.

Declarations of support for Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, aged 42, Labour's deputy chairman and a former Environment Minister, are pouring in from local party organizations all over Norway, a party spokesman said.

A doctor by profession, she joined the Young Socialist movement at the age of seven. Her father Dr Gudmund Harlem is a former Defence Minister and Social Affairs Minister.

Mr Nordli, aged 53, announced his resignation three days ago. He said he was resigning for health reasons but political sources said criticism from within the party over Labour's declining popularity probably contributed to his decision.

With general elections only eight months away, opinion polls show Labour and the Conservatives running neck and neck.

Communists told: Reject Stalinism

Socialists refuse deal with M Marchais

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 2

M Lionel Jospin, the newly appointed first secretary of the Socialist Party, yesterday gave a striking demonstration on the radio of his qualities as a debater, and of a clear-cut, downright expression of his views which contrasts with the more convoluted manner of M François Mitterrand, who handed over to him a week ago to become his party's official candidate in the presidential elections.

In a forceful broadcast, he fielded skilfully the explosive question of the participation of Communist ministers in a future government of the left. Unlike M Mitterrand, he did not argue that this would be a question for the future government majority, and not for a left-wing president if one were elected. It could, he said, be contemplated only if the Communists changed their present line on Afghanistan, Poland, the stationing of new American missiles in Europe, immigration, and a few other points—in other words, if they abandoned their present rigid Stalinist line.

The participation of Communist ministers he described as a "crude trap". If the Socialists rejected the idea, they would stand convicted of "class collaboration" with the right; if they accepted it, they would frighten away potential moderate or Gaullist voters who might rally to M Mitterrand's side in the second ballot next May.

M Jospin refused to walk into this trap. He called it a "*summit of illogicality*" for Communists to expect portfolios for their party members when they persisted in alleging that the Socialists were veering to the right and that a Socialist government would be worse than that of M Barrie. Even Communist militants were nonplussed by the very idea, he said.

There would be no bargaining with the Communists about portfolios either before the first



ballot or after it, or before t end of the *second ballot*. T *Socialists this time* were n going to let themselves in f the kind of last-minu patched-up arrangement wi the Communists which th agreed to just before the parl mentary elections of 1978, a *which made such a bad impr sion on many floating voters.*

That question would ari only in the *context of the p* liamentary elections, whi would follow if M Mitterra were elected. (He has alwa said that he would dissol Parliament if he won and a the electorate which had chos him to give him a majority the Assembly.)

M Jospin repeated that t Socialist strategy remain that of the Union of the Le and of the gathering of "pop lar forces" in the country. *am for the Union of the Le* but I can *neither* forget a cent past nor ignore the p sent . . . The demand f Communist ministers is for *incompatible with the* ve policy of the Communist Par *leadership* at present: th policy is the rejection of t union at the summit, the rej tion of agreements *betwe* party organizations, the rej tion of the common p gramme."

In its place, he said, the Co munists proposed union at t base. But this had *no concre* reality, and all offers of tal or meetings at all levels we rejected.

Britain is shocked by Soviet tactics

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 2

Mr John Wilberforce, leader of the British delegation at the European security conference, told fellow delegates here today that he was shocked by apparent Soviet attempts to make agreement to a disarmament conference a precondition for continuing the Helsinki process.

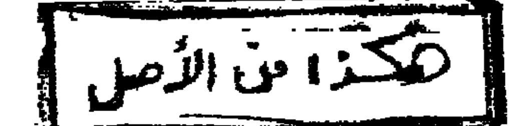
Mr Wilberforce discussed various security proposals under consideration at the conference, and pointed out that without a guarantee for verification of security measures, no proposal could be reliable or effective. He maintained that only a proposal submitted by France offered adequate guarantees in this regard.

In an *obvious* reference to the Soviet Union, he criticized countries which "are more interested in talking loudly about disarmament than in accepting specific and verifiable commitments; more interested in creating a false sense of security in other peoples than in allowing their own people to know the true burden of their own armaments expenditures."

Referring to Soviet objections that confidence-building measures regarding troop movements and other military matters should not apply as far east as the Urals, he said: "No part of the European continent should be exempted . . . To start on the basis of permitti exclusions of territory, a *rig* which could certainly *not* accorded to only one pow would be to defeat the obje of the exercise.

"It is an extraordinary spe tacle we are witnessing, of t Soviet Union with one voi shouting for a process of d armament in Europe, and wi another voice refusing advance to accept the applic tion to most of her Europe territory of the practic measures to be agreed, even the first limited step of th process.

"What a precondition that i It's a whale of a preconditio and we're not going to swallo it."



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Mgr Lustiger: Converted to Catholicism at 14.

Unorthodox choice for Paris see

Continued from page 1

Orleans, it is even more surprising because Mgr Lustiger was appointed only 16 months after the death—by drowning—of his predecessor, Mgr Guy Riobe, a forceful and controversial personality who had taken a strong stand on highly political issues.

Mgr Riobe had left a difficult situation for his successor and Mgr Lustiger had only just begun to have come to grips with it.

In a sense his appointment to the See of Orleans would seem to indicate that the Pope already had him firmly in mind for Paris and greater things. *Cardinal François Marty had* reached the retiring age of 75—set for bishops by Pope Paul VI—in May, 1979. The choice of his successor was already the subject of considerable speculation both in Rome and Paris. Several names, though not Mgr Lustiger's were mentioned at different times as possible successors.

The unorthodox choice also points clearly that it was very much the Pope's own. The fact that Mgr Lustiger was born of a family of Polish immigrants (his mother died in Auschwitz concentration camp in 1943) and that he speaks Polish fluently as well as several other languages, may have been an additional point in his favour.

Mgr Lustiger is a complete contrast with his predecessor. Cardinal Marty was a devout and simple man, who had remained close to his rural origins. He was not an intellectual and did not in the opinion of many of his flock have the personality and authority to head the most prestigious French see.

But he knew what he wanted—and got it with a mixture of stubbornness and wile. The new archbishop is very much an intellectual and an academic, with a string of degrees to his name. For 10 years Mgr Lustiger was chaplain to the Sorbonne students, and there is still something of the student chaplain about his appearance and manner, which bear no relation to the traditional episcopal image.

A parish priest for another 10 years, he went in for novel forms of participation and communication. He acquired a great reputation as a preacher, and many of his Paris congregation recorded his sermons.

His manner is simple and cordial. During his brief stay in Orleans, he impressed people with his energy and decisiveness.

It would be inadequate to classify such a nonconformist *personality as a conservative or* a progressive. At Orleans, he refused to identify himself with some of the more advanced positions taken up by his predecessor, and doctrinally he is very orthodox.

More accounts of brutality follow the disclosures of deliberate blindings in Bihar

Indian police 'smashed the kneecaps of detained men'

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, Feb 2

Two months after disclosures that police blinded men in custody with needles and acid, India is reading a new account of police savagery that is equally shocking.

Four men have said they were tied and held down in police stations while booted policemen jumped repeatedly on their knees until the bones shattered.

Three had legs broken so badly, and suffered such serious gangrene infection, that they each had to have a leg amputated. The fourth man, who also has an infection, faces the possibility of amputation.

Twelve cases of legs allegedly being broken in police stations in this manner have been uncovered. It is alleged that there have been scores of similar brutalities in the past six years.

This new report deepens the sense of shame, bewilderment and helplessness that many Indian people feel about the extra-legal activities of police who, in some parts of the country, rule by terror and with little regard for the normal procedures of arrest, court appearance and the assembling of evidence.

It will also harden the demand for reform of a police service poorly *equipped for its* difficult task and whose reputation is bad and deteriorating.

The cases of leg breakings are documented in the magazine *Sunday*, published in Calcutta, which, with the *Indian Express*, exposed the blindings by police of more than 30 men in the state of Bihar.

The four men whose cases are reported are aged between 22 and 33. They are all alleged to have been attacked in police stations in the city of Varanasi, 400 miles from Delhi, a holy city for Hindus to which thousands make pilgramages to wash away their sins in the Ganges.

The alleged assaults in these four cases took place during the past two years. The story told by Krishna Murari Singh, aged 29, is representative. He names the police officers who he says bound him and made him lie on the floor with his legs outstretched.

"Two people were standing on my thigh and stamping it. Then two caught hold of my left foot, lifting it upwards. One kicked my knee joint, breaking the knee-cap. Then my left leg was stretched on the ground and a policeman's boots repeatedly pounded my damaged knee. I was asked whether I had heard the sound of the knee-cap being shattered. Somebody lifted my left leg and rotated it. I experienced searing pain. Finally, somebody dropped a slab of stone on my left knee." His leg had to be amputated.

In all, the magazine interviewed nine men whose legs had been broken by the police and collected evidence of a total of 12 cases.

The magazine suggests that caste animosity may be at the root of the brutalities in Varanasi. Most of the victims belong to lower castes, it says, while policemen tend to be in the upper castes and are protected by politicians of their own caste.

The *Indian Express*, in a leading article today, says: "The known cases of atrocities by the keepers of law and order reveal only the tip of the iceberg, the bulk of which lies submerged in social apathy. Callous indifference makes our bloodthirsty police believe that they can get away with anything."

Nevertheless, the concern about the performance and behaviour of police forces in India seems to be growing. There are demands for better pay and better training and for higher educational standards to ensure a better kind of recruit. There is a feeling that the police are not well treated by the authorities and that politicians have too much influence in the day to day working of police forces.

It is significant that after the exposure of the blindings in Bihar, police officers and some politicians said the public supported such harsh measures as an effective way of dealing with "criminal elements" and "unsavoury characters."

In the same issue of the magazine which reports that police have broken the legs of men in custody, there is, among the readers' letters condemning the Bihar blindings, one from a reader saying: "Only after the police have blinded some criminals have the roads become safe."

Vanuatu orders envoy to leave as break with France threatens

From Denis Reinhardt
Brisbane, Feb 2

The lights in France's recently completed embassy were burning late tonight as M Yves Rodrigues, the Ambassador, packed to meet a 24-hour expulsion deadline announced by the Vanuatu Cabinet yesterday.

Tomorrow, five more French diplomats—half the mission's complement — have been ordered to follow him. Relations between France and the Government of the former New Hebrides condominium in the Pacific, shared with Britain until last July, now nearing complete rupture.

A £3.5m post-independence aid agreement due for signing with Paris today has been scrapped, and schools will not open until March 9 while an appeal is made to Australia for emergency budget support. Britain may also be asked to provide *further aid*, Mr John Beasant, a government spokesman told *The Times*.

The expulsions are retaliation for deportation from neighbouring French New Caledonia of Mr Barak Sope, head of the Vanuatu Prime Minister's department, who was attending a meeting of the Melanseian independence movement there.

Feeling among French settlers in New Caledonia runs high against the independence movement. The remote Pacific *territory may provide* votes crucial for the reelection of President Giscard d'Estaing, who appears anxious not to offend the *colons*.

Mr Sope, who is also secretary-general of the ruling party in Vanuatu, flew to New Caledonia's capital Noumea on Saturday to address the annual congress of the territory's five-party Front Indépendiste. His visa, granted the day before by M Rodrigues, was withdrawn soon after he landed by the territory's High Commissioner, M Charbonnyaud.

While Mr Sope, chaperoned by French officials, waited for deportation on the first available aircraft, M Rodrigues delivered a diplomatic note to Father Walter Lini, the Vanuatu Prime Minister, saying the action had been taken "on instructions from Paris".

The Vanuatu Cabinet decided on the expulsions yesterday after France ignored a protest Note, lodged on Sunday, describing the deportation as "an unfriendly act".

A Vanuatu Government spokesman told *The Times* last night that France was expected to sever diplomatic relations. If the rift became complete, Vanuatu would allow the Front Indépendiste to establish a government-in-exile in Port Vila.

Warning from Paris: France has warned the Government of Vanuatu that it will have to bear the consequences of its decision to declare M Rodrigues *persona non grata* (Ian Murray writes from Paris).

It seems certain, therefore, that the cooperation agreement between the two countries, negotiated last November, will not be signed as expected in the next few days.

A statement from the French Foreign Ministry today said that the reasons given for the expulsion by the government spokesman in Port Vila "do not *conform with reality*".

It went on: "The French Government consider that the completely unjustified decision to demand the departure of the French representative is explained in reality by the sudden refusal of the Government of Vanuatu to involve itself in the type of cooperation proposed by Paris".

The statement said that Mr Barak Sope, acting as Foreign Minister of Vanuatu, could not properly attend a meeting of the independence movement in New Caledonia. At the same time he had been invited to meet the French authorities in Noumea to discuss matters of common interest. This meeting had taken place as arranged.

Apart from the expulsion of the Ambassador, France is resentful of the fact that it has been instructed to reduce its embassy staff from 13 to five, in keeping with the size of the British and Australian embassies.

'Five years left' to avert revolution

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 2

If armed revolution is to be avoided in South Africa, substantial steps towards social justice and power-sharing are needed in the next five years, Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of the Anglo-American Corporation, said here today.

Mr Oppenheimer, who was addressing a foreign correspondents' luncheon, made it clear that, in spite of recent government actions and delays, the business community was still hopeful that significant reforms would be made to help blacks to advance. People had been looking to the new parliamentary session to see whether Mr P. W. Botha's reformist proposals would be transformed into fact, but instead an election had been called.

Much had been done already towards reform by the Government and by the business world, but a great deal more had been promised. The Government had a different concept of the role of private enterprise and thought it should play a part in carrying out Government policies. "That is not what I thought", Mr Oppenheimer added.

It was most important that black people should have a large part in private enterprise. This meant they must have freedom of movement. He was "not giving up yet" on the promises the Government had made on ending the pass laws and giving greater security in urban areas to blacks.

In the last 10 days there had been rapid changes, including the banning of black newspapers and journalists, the Maputo raid and the calling of the general election. All this had been justified by the need for a total defence strategy to meet a "total onslaught".

Mr Oppenheimer gave a warning that such a total strategy could provoke, rather than defer, an onslaught. The bannings were not justified and the Government's actions had increased pressure on South Africa at a time when there was relaxation of hostility in the West.

He shared the official view that terrorists must face the consequences of their acts, but questioned whether the Maputo raid was wise, even if it was not morally wrong. The Government had not given a satisfactory explanation.

Namibia clash: The South African Defence Force announced today that it had killed 15 members of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) during follow-up operations in the "operational area" along the *Namibian* border with Angola (Nicholas Ashford writes).

The operation followed a mortar attack by Swapo against Oshakati, the largest town in the Ovambo region of northern Namibia.

According to Brigadier Willie Meyer, second in command of the South West African Territory Force, said five 122mm rockets were fired but they did little damage. One South African serviceman was killed during the follow-up operation.



Johannesburg's latest black paper carries on the outspoken tradition of its forebears.

S African black paper launched

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Feb 2

For the third time in a little over three years a new black daily newspaper has appeared on the streets in Johannesburg, Soweto, and other parts of the Witwatersrand.

The *Sowetan* is the direct descendant of *The Post* which was closed by the Government last month, which in turn was the successor of *The World*, another victim of heavy-handed government action.

The *Sowetan* is published by the same company as its forebears, the Argus Group and many members of the editorial staff were employed previously by *The Post*.

More important, the first issue of the new paper also sounds like its forebears. A front-page leading article by *Mr Joe Latakgomo, the editor* who was acting editor of The Post, says the paper "will fight injustices wherever they may occur. We will expose exploitatio nof our people. We will expose social, political and economic ills in our country without fear or favour".

Russia calls on Mr Reagan to end 'hostile campaign'

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 2

The Russians today called on the Reagan Administration to stop its campaign against the Soviet Union over the issue of international terrorism and concentrate instead on improving relations between their two countries.

Returning for the second day running to President Reagan's charges against the Soviet Union, the Soviet leadership again categorically denied that it had ever supported the *theory or practice of terrorism*, which it said was "alien to the Soviet world outlook".

An official Tass statement, clearly authorized at the highest level, said the Soviet leaders had taken note of the "hostile campaigns" now being unfolded in the United States, and took it seriously. Since the remarks were made by a senior Administration official, Tass said—without naming President Reagan—they could not be ignored.

"This is not a matter of some occasional unhappy expression, but a deliberate political subversion."

The statement particularly objected to the "dishonest device" of equating terrorism with the legitimate struggle of peoples for their national, economic and social emancipation. "It is only through ignorance or evil design that one can draw a parallel between these two absolutely different things."

To do so was to mock the aspirations of millions of people on three continents, to assert that dozens of new states in Africa, Asia and Latin America had emerged not as a result of a *struggle* for freedom and independence but simply as a product of terrorism.

The agency said the new "theoreticians of terrorism" should, by their own logic, include George Washington and *other founding fathers of the* United States in a list of terrorists. "That is the kind of absurdity one can be led to by one's hatred of social change."

Tass again pointed to America as the real centre of terrorism, complaining that the Americans were still sheltering two Soviet aircraft hijackers who killed a stewardess.

In a sombre warning that appeared to be directed to Mr Reagan personally, Tass added: "Soviet leading circles would *like to hope that in Washington* they will give serious thought to what the continuation there of the campaign hostile to the Soviet Union will lead to, and will take measures to stop it and get down to really important matters of which there are not a few concerning the adjustment of American-Soviet relations and normalization of the international situation in general."

Pakistan hopes visit will persuade Tehran to back Kabul initiative

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad, Feb 2

Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, left here today for Tehran to discuss his country's initiative to open dialogue with the Kabul regime through the United Nations.

The Foreign Minister also intended to brief the Iranian Government on the deliberations of the recent Islamic Conference summit, which Iran had boycotted.

In January, Pakistan asked Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, to nominate his representative to arrange trilateral talks between the Governments of Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan on the Afghan crisis arising from the Soviet military intervention over a year ago.

While Islamabad has repeatedly stated that it has been encouraged to seek dialogue with Kabul under United Nations auspices, because of an undefined flexibility lately in the Soviet attitude, Kabul and Tehran have maintained an uneasy silence over the Pakistani initiative.

A positive response is eventually expected from Kabul, but there are doubts whether Tehran will accept the initiative.

Mr Shahi is clearly hoping to seek Iran's endorsement of the Pakistani proposal. However it is no secret that at least some of the Iranian rulers have on various occasions expressed their antogonism towards the Pakistani military Government.

The animosity is generally attributed to Iranian revolutionaries, a deep resentment of any military regime, and a belief that Pakistan has been maintaining a tilt towards certain Arab states against the interests of Iran and Libya.

Pakistan has publicly maintained a non-partisan stand over the Iran-Iraq war. President Zia ul-Haq was the first foreign leader to go personally to both Iraq and Iran to try and persuade the warring Gulf countries to seek a political settlement of their dispute.

Pakistan believes that the rising tensions in the Middle East over Iraq-Iran conflict have complicated the search for a solution of the Afghan crisis. Furthermore the French President's move to convene a world conference on the Afghan issue has certainly upset the authorities here.

The French move not only sought to scuttle the Pakistani initiative, but aimed to keep the Afghan pot boiling to ensure that the Soviet Army was prevented from invading Poland, according to the Pakistani press.

Visit to front: Mr Shahi travelled to the southern front in the Gulf war today to meet President Bani-Sadr of Iran (Reuter reports from Tehran).

The official Pars news agency said last week's Islamic summit in Saudi Arabia had asked Mr Shahi to visit Iran again to try to find a solution to the Gulf war. Pakistani diplomats here would not confirm, however, that Mr Shahi had come on a peace mission.

They said his talks would cover regional issues, including the Pakistani initiative to negotiate a political settlement in Afghanistan.

US envoy to El Salvador is dismissed

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 2

Mr Robert White has been dismissed as American Ambassador to El Salvador by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State. Mr White has strongly supported the Salvadorian Government, and during the transition period he denounced some of Mr Reagan's assistants for foreign affairs who had been highly critical of the Carter Government.

Mr White was summoned to Washington for consultation immediately after Mr Haig took office. The Secretary of State *clearly considers Central* America to be one of the areas of the world that requires his immediate attention, and one where he expects to change the policies followed by the Democrats.

American aid to Nicaragua has been suspended, on the pretext that the Nicaraguans have not yet spent the money already sent them in the manner prescribed. The Americans insisted that half of it should go to private operations. The suggestion is that more than half has gone to state bodies.

The Sandinista Government in Nicaragua has been helping the leftist insurgents in El Salvador. Last December, a report written by Mr Reagan's foreign policy team accused Mr White and Mr Lawrence Pazzullo, the Ambassador to Nicaragua, of being "social reformers." This was apparently considered a term of abuse, and meant that they wanted to fight communism with social reform rather than force.

Mr Haig said last week that combating international terrorism was more important than promoting human rights, because the most important of all human rights is the freedom *from terrorism*.

Four nations discuss border war

Brasilia, Feb 2.—Representatives of Argentina, Chile, Brazil and the United States met here today in an attempt to resolve the border conflict between Peru and Ecuador.

The four countries, which have called for a ceasefire, are the guarantors of the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro, an agreement signed in 1942 to fix the disputed border.

President Jaime Roldos of Ecuador last night ruled out direct talks with Peru on the fighting which broke out again last week.

Diplomats said that they were trying to thrash out a settlement satisfactory to both Peru and Ecuador before a meeting of the Organization of American States began in Washington today.

Peru last night ordered its forces to stop fighting, but President Roldos dismissed the announcement as a manoeuvre.

Peruvians celebrated the recapture of three northern border posts which the Government alleged had been occupied *by Ecuador's troops*.

Quito refusal: Asked at a news conference in Quito last night if he would accept discussions with President Fernando Belaúnde Terry of Peru, President Roldos replied: "I would not accept and I state that categorically. I do not believe in Belaúnde's word after all the lies he has told."

Ecuador has denied occupying any Peruvian territory and has charged Peru with being the aggressor.

President Roldós said that, if the OAS did not come up with a satisfactory solution, Ecuador would consult the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, the main function of which is to find peaceful solutions to disputes between Latin American countries.—Reuter.

Another hitch delays reusable space shuttle

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Feb 2

The launching of the reusable space shuttle, already three years behind the original target date, is to be delayed further, it was announced today. The provisional launch date of March 17 has been abandoned and the new date will be at least a month later.

The latest delay has been caused by trouble with the insulation of the external tank which provides fuel for the three main engines.

Much of the previous delay has been due to similar problems with the insulation of the craft itself. The lightweight tiles which will prevent it from burning up when it returns to the Earth's atmosphere proved hard to fix and did not all fit *properly*.

Sex magazine interview angers preacher

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 2

Mr Jerry Falwell, a fundamentalist preacher and founder of Moral Majority Inc, failed today to have the latest issue of *Penthouse*, a magazine noted for its photographs of naked women, barred from the news stands.

The issue contains an interview with him by two British writers and, as he explained to a judge today: "*Penthouse* is a very poor package for the gospel of Christ."

He asked the court to extend a temporary injunction against the magazine's distribution, granted on Friday. The judge refused and the magazine went on sale today. Mr Falwell is suing *Penthouse* for $10m (about £4m).

Mr Falwell claims that the two writers, Mr Andrew Duncan and Mr Sasthi Brata, did not tell him that the interview would appear in *Penthouse*. It is especially poignant that it should have appeared in this publication because Mr Falwell had criticized Mr Jimmy Carter, the former President, for allowing himself to be interviewed for *Playboy*, a magazine of a similar complexion.

The preacher has become a national figure in the past year through his televised revivalist sermons and because of his *support for Mr Ronald Reagan* during the electio n campaign. Mr Falwell was one of several conservative churchmen to help the new President, an action some critics felt inappropriate.

Mr Falwell said that he thought Mr Duncan was writing a book about him and that Mr Brata was interviewing him for a London newspaper. "I have never given interviews to smut magazines, nor di I practice swimming in cesspools", he said.

Violations of rights much worse in peace than war

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Feb 2

A warning that human rights are being eroded by evolution of "military strategies affecting the lives and liberties of millions" was given today by Mr Theo van Boven, director of the United Nations Human Rights Division.

"What, for example, are the issues for human rights posed in the increasing spread of the nuclear state?" he asked. "Do people receive frank and honest information about the nuclear arms build-up and the hazards of nuclear warfare? Is there any popular involvement in the development of those strategies?"

In opening the six-week session of the 43-nation United Nations Human Rights Commission, he said growth in structures of violence meant strong demand for support of coercive public order. The resulting expansion of government measures would in all probability cripple the human rights movement.

Since the Second World War, human rights violations within countries had resulted in levels *of human suffering far greater* than those caused by hostilities between two or more nations. Such deeds were in themselves a violation of peace.

The United Nations must devise procedures for responding urgently to the anguished cries of human beings, the victims of such violations in many parts of the world.

Mr van Boven called on delegates to extend the mandate of the five-member working group on disappeared persons. The United Nations had not only to save children from the scourge of war, it also had to protect both present and future generations against "the inhumane dimensions of the horrible phenomenon of disappearances".

The working group's report, put before the commission, sets out what it has so far ascertained on the fate of about 13,000 people who have disappeared over the past six years in 15 countries. By far the largest section in the 85-page report deals with Argentina.

Kurds claim their forces have taken former capital

By Our Foreign Staff

Fighting has flared up again between Iranian Government forces and Kurdish rebels, according to reports from Iran. A spokesman for the spiritual leader of the Iranian Kurds, Shaikh Ezzedin Husseini, told foreign correspondents by telephone that the traditional Kurdish stronghold of Mahabad, which has been in Government hands for the past six months, had been recaptured by Kurdish guerrillas.

The spokesman said there had been hundreds of casualties *on both sides*, and Government forces were still bombarding Mahabad from positions above the *town*. Mahabad was the capital of the short-lived Kurdish Republic of 1946.

The Iranian authorities are reported recently to have offered the Kurds greater autonomy in return for Kurdish support for Iran in its war with Iraq. This offer apparently was turned down, however. The latest round of fighting is the heaviest for some time, and is reported to have spread to other towns close to the Iran-Iraq border, including Sanandaj and Saqqez.

Dolphins save ferry children

Jakarta, Feb 2.—Three children on the Indonesian passenger liner Tompomas II that sank last Tuesday in the Java Sea, killing 140 people, were rescued by dolphins, the *Jakarta newspaper* Berita Buana reported.

Thrown into the water by their father, a group of dolphins came and pushed the boys to a lifeboat.—Agence France-Presse.

Revolutionary Guards warn of conspiracies against Iran

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 2

Iran's powerful revolutionary guards have issued a strong warning against "conspiracies" to reintroduce a moderate government in Iran.

In the face of steadily mounting rumours of growing pressure against the government of Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, the guards declared their "unsparing support for the doctrinaire and decisive stands of the Islamic Government".

In a dig at President Bani-Sadr, who has blocked the appointment of three key ministers by the Government, the guards urged the completion of the Cabinet as soon as possible.

They called for the "conspiracies of international imperialism and the United States strategy for bringing to power a moderate government" to be "exposed and discredited".

The statements, contained in a resolution issued after a three-day seminar of the revolutionary guards corps in the holy capital of Qom, were printed in the fundamentalist newspaper *Islamic Republic* today.

Political sources said today *that pressure was increasing on* Ayatollah Khomeini to replace the present Government because of its apparent inability to cope with the problems now facing the country.

The president is said to have urged such a move yet again in his last meeting with the Ayatollah. Dissatisfaction with the Government among sections of Tehran's bazaar is said to be adding to the pressure.

Sources said a protest closure planned by anti-Rajai elements in the bazaar last Saturday was called off after some "assurances" were given concerning the Government. But the bazaar itself is far from united and sources say another closure may be called next Saturday by those in favour of the Government.

Bazaar sources say the moderates there are pressing for the appointment of Mr Sadeq Tabatabai, a former minister in the Bazargan government and said by some to have played a key role in the hostage negotiations.

The name of Mr Mustapha Mir-Salim, head of the police and a moderate member of the dominant Islamic Republican Party, is also being canvassed. Mr Mir-Salim was the last-ditch compromise candidate put forward for the post by the President last year but was rejected by Parliament in favour of Mr Rajai.

In Parliament today Mr Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Speaker, flatly rejected a *claim made by the President* yesterday that the Parliament was bent on eliminating Mr Bani-Sadr.

Iran has managed to increase its oil eexports to more than 1,200,000 barrels a day, according to highly informed diplomatic *sources here*.

One said that this figure had been maintained from mid-December to mid-January. Of this a million barrels came from the Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf and 200,000 barrels from the Lavan offshore oil field.

Another source in contact with Kharg officials over the past week said that they had confirmed to him exports from the terminal of "a little over a million barrels a day".

This compares with just a trickle after the start of the Iran-Iraq war. Iraqi bombers have attempted to destroy the Kharg terminal on a number of occasions

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OVERSEAS

Army prestige at its lowest ebb after Jiang Qing trial

Chinese concerned by terrorists

From David Bonavia
Peking, Feb 2

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese Communist Party Vice-Chairman and the effective ruler of the country, has expressed concern over the activities of political opponents, which he said ranged from spreading rumours to arson and bombings.

In a recent talk to a high-level meeting of party leaders, Mr Deng also listed illegal publishing, divulging state secrets, spreading seditious reports, violating public order, kidnapping and plotting assassinations as other counter-revolutionary activities.

In another high-level talk, Mr Chen Yun, a party vice-chairman who oversees Chinese economic planning, has defended the slashing cutback on imports of foreign industrial equipment disclosed late last year.

Mr Chen said world interest rates were not favourable to buy goods on credit, and he defended the policy of reducing expenditure on heavy industry, to improve living standards and generate more exports through textile and light industries.

The recent flurry of policy statements by the Peking authorities seems to reflect concern at a deterioration of civil order and general loss of confidence on the part of the Communist Party and government bureaucracies.

According to Chinese sources, the recent trial of Jiang Qing, Mao Tse-tung's widow, and nine other defendants, on charges of counter-revolutionary activity, has caused considerable public unease, because it is now widely recognized that Mao supported the activities of the so-called Gang of Four—or at least some of those activities.

Jiang Qing was sentenced to death, suspended for two years, to see "whether she will repent". The same sentence was pronounced on Zhang Chunqiao, another gang member who was formerly the Vice-Premier, Mayor of Shanghai and Chief Commissar of the Armed Forces.

Other defendants were given jail sentences from 16 years to life.

Several senior army commanders in China are believed to be restive over the fact that four of the five military defendants who were senior staff officers (including Huang Yongshegn, the former chief of staff), were accoused of plotting to kill Mao.

The Army's prestige has sunk to its lowest ebb because of the trial, the policy of cutting back heavy industrial investment—some of which is probably related to military modernization, and the reassertion of party control over the military.

It is widely felt that Mr Deng will have to act quickly to placate the army commanders, and find some way to assuage the fears of the middle-level bureaucracy, whose active support is essential to the cherished modernization programme.

Nephew of Mao 'to be put on trial'

Peking, Feb 2.—Mao Tse-tung's nephew and 12 former senior military officers are to face trial as part of a broader purge of radicals after the sentencing of the so-called Gang of Four, according to an official newspaper in north-east China.

Mr Mao Yuanxin, aged 41, the late Chairman's nephew, was once described as the overlord of north-east China and he was reputed to be one of his uncle's few confidants during the Communist leader's last years.

Two members of the Gang of Four received death sentences eight days ago for crimes that they were convicted of committing during the 1966-1976 Cultural Revolution.

The north-eastern *Heilongjiang Daily* in a report on the proposed trials alleged that Mr Mao Yuanxin had "taken refuge with Jiang Qing (Mao's widow), actively took part in the Jiang Qing counter-revolutionary clique's conspiratorial activities and committed towering crimes against the party and the people".

The paper did not specify the time or place of his trial.

The former officers to be tried included Mr Lu Min, the former chief of the operations department of the Air Force command, according to the paper. The officers would appear before a military court on charges of involvement in a plot to kill Chairman Mao.

The *Heilongjiang Daily* said in a two-paragraph report that Mr Mao Yuanxin had taken advantage of his "special position", but it did not refer directly to his relationship to Mao Tse-tung.

Another provincial paper, the *Xinhua Daily* from Nanjing in south China, reported that two local "counter-revolutionaries" had been jailed for between 10 and 15 years for stealing weapons and explosives with which they had planned to carry out sabotage.

It said the arrest of Mr Yin Xiaokou and Mr Su Shunda had meant that supporters of the Gang of Four still posed a threat and that some of them were out to wreak vengeance on the party for the fall of the radicals.—Reuter.

Editor turns his back on communism

From Our Correspondent
Kuala Lumpur, Feb 2

Mr Samad Ismail, the prominent Malaysian journalist released on Saturday after four and a half years of preventive detention, today renounced his communist beliefs and said he found great solace in "the path of God".

Mr Samad, the former managing editor of the *New Straits Times* group of newspapers, has not been released from detention yet but sources said he would be after his second public statement had been broadcast over the government radio and television network tonight.

In what he said was a voluntary statement, he said his statement was aimed at warning the people of Malaysia and Singapore not to fall into the trap laid for them by the banned underground Malaysian communist movement, of which he was a member for three decades.

Mr Samad's first statement was made six months after his detention in June, 1976. His second comes barely a month after the chairman of the Malayan Communist Party, Mr Musa Ahmad, renounced his beliefs and defected to the Government.

A prominent writer, he had served two years in preventive detention in 1951 for his anti-colonial and anti-British views. He detailed his "entrapment" by the Communists and warned the youth of Malaysia and Singapore not to fall into the same trap.

Mr Samad, aged 57, has two offers of jobs in United States universities and his family said today he would decide on his future after his return home.

S Korea is assured of continued US support

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Feb 2

President Reagan today assured President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea that the United States would remain a "reliable" ally by keeping its existing forces in the Pacific area.

"I hope that our Asian allies —Korea, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and our friends in the Asean (Association of South-East Asia Nations)—know that we will have just as much alliance with them and they will have our continued support as our European allies will", Mr Reagan added. He was speaking after a three-hour meeting with the South Korean leader at the White House."

Mr Reagan's promise of continued military support for South Korea came as no great surprise here, since the new Administration has made it clear it wants a more cordial relationship with Seoul. The pledge means that former President Carter's original plan to phase out the 39,000 American troops in South Korea has finally been scrapped.

President Chun is the first South Korean leader to visit the United States in more than a decade.

Since his arrival in Washington last night, the South Korean leader has been followed by a group of about 1,000 cheering members of the capital's Korean association, as well as a smaller band of about 100 protestors. The latter are demanding the release of Mr Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean opposition leader whose death sentence on sedition charges recently was commuted to life imprisonment.

The protestors claim that the larger group of supporters of President Chun includes "rent-a-crowd" members of the Unification Church (the Moonies). This is denied by the Korean association, although demonstrations to welcome the late President Park were organized by the Moonies on at least one occasion when he visited the United States.

Pol Pot faction may step down to help formation of united Khmer front

From David Watts
Bangkok, Feb 2

Mr Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), is to replace Mr Khieu Samphan as leader of the ousted Government of Democratic Kampuchea, according to the Thai Government.

However, a spokesman for the front said Mr Son was not prepared to make the transition because of the bloody reputation of the Khmer Rouge, the military wing of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea. He was happy to accept former Khmer Rouge into his movement as nationalists.

News of Mr Son's "agreement" to lead a united front of his KPNLF and the Khmer Rouge first surfaced today in the English-language *Bangkok Post* newspaper which reflects the opinions of the Thai Government. A government spokesman said the story was "very accurate".

Whether or not Mr Son, who lives in a jungle camp across the Thai border in Kampuchea, has yet agreed to lead a united front of Kampucheans is unclear.

At a press conference yesterday Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, hinted that such a united front was in the offing and Mr Son himself announced last month that he would form a provisional government before the next session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The *Bangkok Post* said that as well as leading the Democratic Kampuchean Government Mr Son would take over the Foreign Ministry portfolio at present held by Mr Khieu.

The paper went on to say that Mr Pol Pot, now running military operations, and Mr Ieng Sary, the present Foreign Minister, had also agreed to step down. The paper said they might go into exile in China.

Clearly, much Chinese pressure would have been necessary to bring about the reported shotgun wedding. The Chinese have been concerned at the erosion of diplomatic support for the Democratic Kampuchea Government—the most recent government to withdraw recognition being Australia—and the possibility that the Vietnamese-installed Heng Samrin regime might take over the Kampuchean seat at the United Nations.

Fresh talks with Guatemala on Belize future

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Another step towards the independence of Belize will be taken this week, with the announcement yesterday of a further round of talks in New York between Britain and Guatemala.

Guatemala remains opposed to Britain granting independence to its Latin American colony. The British Government has made it clear that it intends to press ahead with a constitutional conference, in the light of the overwhelming vote at the the United Nations last November in favour of early independence.

The Foreign Office said yesterday it was hoped that a settlement could be reached with Guatemala, before Belize attained independence. No date had been set yet, it was stated, "but early independence is the key".

The talks on Thursday and Friday represent the final stage in the attempt to persuade Guatemala to accept the inevitable. Although no territorial concessions are being made, it is possible that Guatemala could gain some benefits in communications and related matters. Belize's representatives will, as usual, also be present at the talks.

800,000 Chinese head for new year celebrations

From Our Correspondent
Hongkong, Feb 2

Thousands of Chinese are already flocking over the border from Hongkong to celebrate with relatives and friends in China the lunar new year festivities of the year of the cock, which begins officially on February 5.

Eight thousand left by train yesterday and the Immigration Department expects that 800,000 will visit China during the first two weeks of February—an increase of 50,000 over the same period last year.

Most are heavily burdened with gifts of radios, televisions, food and clothing, waiting with Chinese patience in stretching queues for the 32 trains which run between Hongkong and Canton every 24 hours.

The cock (called the rooster by decorous foreigners) is the tenth of 12 non-humans in the Chinese lunar calendar, based on the legend that Buddha summoned all the animals in creation to wish him farewell on his death-bed. Only 12 lined up—first the rat, followed by the ox, the tiger, the hare, the dragon, the snake, the horse, the ram, the monkey, the cock, the dog and the wild boar.

That remains the recurrent order of the 12 years of the zodiac calendar.

Soothsayers in Hongkong predict hopefully that the coming year of the cock will be a year of hard work, when inflation will level off in both the East and the West.

Coincidentally, the Government has announced that the year of the cock will usher in Hongkong's 12-year plan to spend \$HK1.3 billion (£104m) on increasing the supply of water from China. Seven new pumping stations, 20 miles of tunnel and 20 miles of pipeline will be built. The three-stage plan will be completed in 1994.

Briton 'left to sit and rot in Havana jail'

Vero Beach, Florida, Feb 2.—Terry Child, a 29-year-old Briton held in a Havana prison, has been found hanged in his cell, his wife said today.

Blaming British official neglect of his case, Mrs Susan Child, an American, said she had been informed that her husband had hanged himself in his cell on Friday.

She added: "The British just let Terry sit and rot in that hell-hole of a jail. We tried and tried to get him freed, but our hands were tied without the British. His blood is on their hands."

Mr Child, a British subject, had been jailed on drug-smuggling charges after his light aircraft was forced to land in Cuba on a trip from Colombia on April 13, 1978.

A distraught Mrs Child said she could not believe that her husband had committed suicide, because she received a cable from the British Embassy in Havana only last month informing her that they had started work on his release.

"All these years they let him sit there and did nothing. Dozens of American prisoners released from Cuba were in jail on the same trumped-up charges", she said.

But Mrs Child also said that she was perplexed by her husband's suicide because the British Embassy had finally started moving on his behalf.

"He knew his release was pending. So I can't understand the suicide. I'm going to have an autopsy performed when the body gets back here on Friday", she said.

Mrs Child had been bitterly disappointed last October when her husband, who had lived in the United States for eight years, was not with 33 American prisoners released by President Fidel Castro.

Mr Cyril Gray, spokesman for the British Consulate in Atlanta, Georgia, said today: "We have normal diplomatic relations with Cuba and we ascertained that Mr Child had a fair trial. There was nothing more that could be done.

"It was only after the Americans were released last year that we decided to try to get Mr Child deported", he said.—Reuter.

Mr Trudeau got British warning

From John Best
Ottowa, Feb 2

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, acknowledged today that one of Mrs Thatcher's ministers urged him last December to refer his Government's constitutional reform plan to the Supreme Court of Canada for an opinion as to its validity.

He was replying to a Conservative opposition MP, who asked whethe the minister, Mr Francis Pym, had argued for such a reference on the grounds that without it British MPs would be "uneasy" about dealing with legislation affecting the Canadian constitution.

Mr Pym, at that time Defence Minister, and now Government leader in the House of Commons, paid a one-day visit to Ottawa on December 19 in the course of which he conferred with Mr Trudeau.

The Prime Minister told his questioner, Mr Elmer Mackay, today: "It is probable that Mr Pym said words to that effect." He—Mr Trudeau—had answered that it was not for British backbenchers to judge the rightness or wrongness of what the Canadian Government was doing.

Under a highly controversial resolution now before Canada's Parliament, Westminster would be asked to "patriate" the British North America Act, after entrenching a Bill of Rights and constitutional amending formula.

Mr Trudeau insisted today, under vigorous Opposition questioning that "all precedents" dictated that the British Parliament had no choice but to pass the legislation in the form recommended by the Canadian Parliament. "This is a political matter for the Canadian people to judge", he said.

Mr Trudeau denounced the court actions taken by six of Canada's 10 provinces against the federal measure as a "tactical ploy" to delay its passage. The actions smacked of using the courts for political purposes.

Westminster questions: Several Labour and Conservative backbenchers propose to ask Mrs Thatcher in the Commons today if she has assured Mr Trudeau that whatever request comes from Ottawa for a revision of the Canadian constitution, the Government will impose a three-line whip to get it through (George Clark, Political Correspondent, writes).

Many more MPs are taking an interest in the subject since a Commons select committee report, which argues in favour of delay until the Canadian courts have pronounced on the legality of Mr Trudeau's proposals. The committee also emphasized the British Parliament's role as guardian of the federal structure of Canada.

Many MPs believe that Mr Trudeau is relying on an opinion given by Mrs Thatcher in June last year when the British Government was not fully aware of the extent of opposition from the provincial governments of Canada.

Now eight of the 10 provinces are opposed to various sections of Mr Trudeau's constitutional package which is now before the Federal Parliament.

Fashion by Suzy Menkes

Déjeuner sur l'herbe with Yves Saint Laurent

Below: Pure wool jacket in banana yellow, navy, pink, white, red and pale green £205. Silk shirt with tie neck £91.25 from a selection in assorted colours. Grey flannel trousers £117.25. Leather belt £19.50. Golden faceted beads, and earrings from a selection, all at Yves Saint Laurent Rive Gauche branches 36 Brompton Road, 113 New Bond Street and the London Intercontinental Hotel, Hyde Park Corner.

Hair by Sam McKnight at Daniel Galvin.

Makeup by Linda Cantello.

Photograph by Neil Kirk.

Six clones of chic confront me across the catwalk at Yves Saint Laurent. Each Rothschild Baroness has the same falcon-like profile, a sunburst of diamonds at the earlobe and a silk blouse tied in a pussy-cat bow at the neck.

They purr with pleasure right from the start of his couture show, as a strict suit, with finger-tip jacket and short straight skirt, swings out to the strains of *Showboat*.

Yves Saint Laurent is a master of the man-tailored suit coupled with a feminine shirt. His daywear is a constant theme in black, white and grey —chalk striped and pin stripes, houndstooth check and Prince of Wales, worn with classic trousers or a slim skirt ending just above the knee.

The line for spring has moved gently down to the hips, to balance the shorter hemline, and the newest jackets are bloused and belted at the hip or short and curvy.

The tunic is another Saint Laurent classic. It looks stunning in the Impressionist prints —pointilliste dots or Renoir roses—that Yves Saint Laurent has taken as this season's theme. The prints appear at first as gentle adjuncts to the severe suits—just a soft chiffon blouse that later grows into a three-quarter length tunic, especially striking in bright suedes—colours like orange or leaf green that are more reminiscent of the febrile Van Gogh than the fragile Impressionists.

The daywear seems to dominate the couture collection, the outfits subtly edged towards evening glamour, by the addition of a gilded leather straight skirt or a sparkling camisole.

I wonder who but Nancy Reagan and her entourage would wear the navy shantung dresses with touches of white, or whether the Rothschild Ladies will really go to a grand soirée in a short ball dress—a full tulle skirt cropped off at the knees?

Then Yves Saint Laurent starts to unroll his Impressionist canvas—soft broken-stripe roses on an off-the-shoulder tunic in satin damask. A delicate Degas-pink artists smock. Big ball skirts in moiré, watermarked like the ripples in a Monnet painting.

Slim columns of satin come out in Sisley's stronger colours, or in lacquer black satin and gold lamé.

Here, in the most intricately worked Chantilly lace, is the see-through blouse that earned Yves headlines of condemnation ten long years ago. There are floating organdie evening dresses embroidered with encrustations of roses in the grand tradition of haute couture.

And finally here is a *Showboat* wedding, a black model in frills of white organdie threaded with gold, which brings the audience cheering to its feet as the lean, scholarly figure of Yves Saint Laurent himself takes a shy turn down the catwalk.

I am sitting in a cafe opposite Saint Laurent couture, anxious for my interview and eager to avoid the traffic chaos caused by the state visit of the President of Brazil.

I reflect on the immense achievement of the man who at 44 is unquestionably the most influential fashion designer in the world.

His achievement can be measured not in his shows, however masterly, but in the streets. Every woman who walks by the cafe window is wearing the coordinated separates he first made fashionable 15 years ago. The plate glass boutique windows carry versions of his man-tailored suits and every other female, from 15 to 50 is wearing trousers.

If you tell teenagers today that women had to fight to make trouser suits acceptable to head waiters, hoteliers and bosses they simply will not believe you.

The entire basis of our current fashion wardrobes—straight trousers, velvet blazers, tweed jackets, related sportswear, all emanate from Yves Saint Laurent. No wonder that his best-quoted remark is that he regrets not having invented blue jeans.

Eleven gendarmes, a police van and an atmosphere of refined panic greet me at the mansion that houses St Laurent haute couture.

They are rolling back the dust covers across the fancy Second Empire mirrors, swinging the ladders perilously close to the giant chandelier. The wife of the President of Brazil (*Le Monde* says the country's financial position is catastrophic) is due any minute for a private fashion show.

Yves' elegant assistant tells me that she is desolate but Monsieur Saint Laurent is still resting at home. Yes, she knew that I had come to Paris especially on her summons. He had definitely said that in principle he would like to talk to me. Could I call back a little later?

By the time I have counted all the water marks on the Nile green carpet, all the swirls on the marbled pillars, all the lacquered branches decorating the boutique (and lost count of all the phone calls) I say firmly that when M Saint Laurent wants to write to London to invite me, I shall think about coming back . . .

The reflections sparkle Monnet-like on the flooded motorways by the Seine as my taxi speeds me to the airport.

How can I explain in London that an audience with Yves Saint Laurent is rather like waiting at the court of a Saudi Arabian Prince? Fixing an interview is not at all the same thing as getting one.

I have worked hard at the background to my picture. My notebook is filled with statistics of the 160 Rive Gauche boutiques world-wide, of the head-to-toe diffusion of everything from make-up to shoes.

I have inspected the spanking new high tech showroom with its cold tiled floor and grey steel chairs.

I have been told more than I need to know about Yves Saint Laurent himself—his childhood in Algeria, his early years with Dior, his enthusiasm for art and opera, his designs for theatre and film.

But at the centre of my canvas there is still a naked figure, an enigma, a jarring contrast to the detail of the rest.

But of course! I shall tell them back home that I much enjoyed my *Déjeuner sur l'herbe* with Yves Saint Laurent.







Below right: Renoir roses on a tunic tress. Below left: Organdie frilled wedding dress inspected by a shy Yves Saint Laurent.

Photographs by Michel Arnaud







Left: Short curvy jacket, straight skirt, romantic lacy blouse. Right: Chalk-striped trouser suit belted at the hips.

Snippets

The grown-up equivalent of a kid let loose in a sweet shop, is a woman allowed to try out any make-up she likes, without interference or pressure from a soignée salesgirl.

The Beauty Playground at Selfridges (from today until February 14) has become an annual event. You can paint your face from a central selection of products from famous name beauty houses—everyone from Revlon to Rubinstein, Arden to Dior. The firms represented will advise and help, but to buy the products you have to go down from the fourth floor to the ground floor.

Joan Price, whose Face Place Shops have a policy of non-intimidation, has helped to organize the Beauty Playground. Her book *Making Faces* (published last autumn by Michael Joseph, £9.50) is full of good ideas and information on how to make the best of your looks.

Gifts - with - purchase, that standard way to tempt us into beauty departments, will be a feature of a beauty promotion starting this Friday, February 6, at D.H. Evans. They will also be offering beauty experts to show you how it is done and in-store demonstrations.

PARLIAMENT, February 2, 1981

Human error led to Brixton escape: security check to be carried out

House of Commons

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, announced in a statement that he had asked the chief inspector of prisons to carry out an inspection of Brixton prison, particularly the security there. The statement was about the report of the inquiry by Mr Gordon Fowler, deputy director-general of the prison service into the circumstances of the escape of three category A prisoners from Brixton on December 16.

Mr Whitelaw (Penrith and the Border, C) said: Because of the criminal proceedings in connexion with the escape which are being taken, I am advised by the Attorney General that it would not be right for the report to be published at present. But I propose to give the main findings of the report and to indicate the action that has been and is being taken in consequence.

The main conclusion of Mr Fowler's report was that the escape was made possible by human error, specifically by serious weaknesses at all levels in the establishment in the application of the security procedures laid down for category A prisoners. Mr Fowler has made a number of recommendations to rectify these deficiencies and the director-general of the prison service has instructed that these should be implemented immediately.

Before coming to that conclusion Mr Fowler inquired into all the various factors which could have made the escape possible. He concluded that there was no evidence to suggest that there was any conspiracy or collusion in the escape by members of the staff of Brixton prison.

As regards the fabric of the prison, he found that, although Brixton prison was one of the worst examples of the inadequacies of the worn-out and antiquated part of the prison estate, the physical fabric was not in itself a principal factor in the escape; but we must all acknowledge that when we contain high-risk prisoners in far from ideal, though not insecure, conditions we increase the weight of responsibility on the staff concerned.

He also reported that, with a senior officer and seven officers responsible for supervising 15 Category A prisoners in D Wing, with one officer responsible for their surveillance during the night hours, the staffing level was entirely adequate. Further, he found that industrial action did not impinge on security at the establishment or affect staffing levels in D Wing. Nor did he find that the security procedures themselves were defective.

Mr Fowler's clear view was that the failure to prevent the escape was due to a number of specific human weaknesses occurring over a period of time, at all levels of staff concerned.

The director-general of the prison service and I accept these conclusions, and the specific recommendations for restoring a satisfactory level of security that flow from them. The director-general of the prison service has instructed that they be acted on with all speed.

I turn now to the action that the director-general has taken in view of the main finding in Mr Fowler's report that the failure to prevent this escape arose from human errors in the establishment over a period of time at all levels.

In the circumstances the governor, Mr Selby, must himself accept, and very properly does accept, the primary responsibility. The director-general has accordingly appointed Mr Anthony Pearson, at present governor of Gartree high security prison, to be governor in charge of Brixton prison, with immediate effect, in succession to Mr Selby, who has been moved to a post in the prison service regional office structure.

The responsibility for what occurred is not one which can, however, be laid only at the governor's door. The weaknesses and errors in performance of all members of staff concerned have been brought home to them; where appropriate, they have been transferred to other establishments, or other duties within the establishment.

Before concluding I should like to say one more word about the staff aspects. The responsibility for the custody and care of prisoners including high security risk prisoners is a very heavy one. We are entitled to require it to be discharged to the highest standards.

The House will wish to recognize, however, that the record of Brixton, including Mr Selby and his staff, has been one of real achievement in difficult circumstances, which I believe it is right for us to acknowledge.

The director-general of the prison service, in conjunction with Mr Fowler, the regional director and the new governor, will carry into effect the recommendations on security in the establishment. Any wider lessons for the prison service, which has had a good security record in recent years, will also be followed up.

Finally, I have thought it right to ask her Majesty's chief inspector of prisons, who reports directly to me and not to the prison department, to inspect Brixton prison, paying particular regard to security matters, so as to ensure that I personally can be satisfied that the report has indeed been effectively followed up in all respects. The inspection will take place later this year.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab) questioning the Home Secretary on his statement, said: The escape of any Category A prisoner causes great public anxiety and in this case the anxiety is particularly acute.

The statement refers to human error over a period of time. For how long were such mistakes made? Could those mistakes have resulted in other escapes which by good fortune did not occur?

In so far as the errors are the result of failure of normal procedures and practices, is he sure that similar errors are not now being made in other high security prisons? Should not the chief inspector of prisons make sure that Brixton's errors are not being repeated elsewhere?

What is meant by the statement that the physical fabric of Brixton was not in itself a principal factor? We understand that the escape was effected by the prisoners actually boring through the physical fabric. If that is the case, in how many other high security prisons is it possible to bore holes through the walls.

Can we take it that the staff have been transferred to other posts which ensure they do not have responsibility for high security prisoners?

The men who escaped had been awaiting trial for over a year. The problem of Brixton is therefore inevitably related to the problem of prisoners on remand in general. The fact they had been there for so long awaiting trial was bound to exacerbate the difficulties the governor and his staff faced.

Mr Whitelaw: The mistakes, in that they were failures to carry out security procedures, had been going on for a period of months. It would have been possible for other escapes to have been made because of the failure to carry out security procedures.

Similar errors have not been made elsewhere—at least they have not resulted in escapes. I will ensure they are fully carried out. The lessons of Brixton have been quickly learnt throughout the prison service.

The chief inspector's inspection of Brixton will be in addition to his other inspections which he will be doing on a routine basis throughout the year.

I am advised that the security wing at Brixton is by the standards we have in many of our prisons up to that standard. (Some laughter.) If MPs laugh they should remember why that is so. It is because this House and all governments have always been reluctant to spend money on the prisons over a large number of years. MPs should not laugh. It is a fact we have to face.

In this case had the security arrangements been fully carried out the opportunity to bore through the walls would not have been available. Staff transfer is primarily a matter for the director general of the prison service. I will ensure he appreciates what Mr Hattersley said. In principle, I would trust what he said about transfer would be so.

The question of length of time before trial is one of the problems facing prisons like Brixton. Those who wish to criticize the governor for what happened there should recognize some of the problems long periods of remand have caused him and his staff.

Mrs Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston, C): Would he confirm there were at least three major reasons why this escape took place? It was possible to move furniture away from the wall and back again to hide the efforts made to make holes; somehow visitors smuggled in implements to enable tunnelling to take place; and there was scaffolding outside which enabled prisoners to get over the wall and away.

Would he confirm at least these three things have been tackled and would not occur again in other prisons?

Mr Whitelaw: I can confirm in general terms what she has said. I will ensure these particular problems will be dealt with in other prisons.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L): If the appalling standards he has described had been the primary responsibility of the prison governor would he not have been dismissed from the service rather than being given other unspecified duties as is he being made the scapegoat for wider deficiencies? It should not the logic be a resignation at the top, namely the Home Secretary's?

Mr Whitelaw: I do not believe the right way to deal with a report of this kind and the problems that arise is in a statement. Mr Selby has had a considerable position in the prison service. He has a future in the prison service which is of importance. I would have thought it right to deal with it on that basis.

He is entitled to his view on the latter point. There are other people who determine whether it is right or not.

In recent years (he said, later) the prison service has had a good record on escapes. There was a time when there were a large number of escapes. The Home Secretary at that time did not resign nor did anybody suggest he should have done so.

Mr Thomas Cox (Wandsworth, Tooting, Lab): The real issue here is not that these three men were able to get out of a secure unit, but it was the fact they were able to get over the wall.

Will Mr Whitelaw confirm that when building work is taking place the very closest scrutiny is given to ladders and scaffolding? Can he tell the House whether, at the time of this escape, there was a 24 hour patrol around the perimeter wall?

Mr Whitelaw: I note what Mr Cox says on scaffolding. In view of the many strictures recently placed on the media I have got to be extremely careful in commenting on the actual way in which people escaped.

Patrols should have been there and this is one of the security matters which I referred to in Mr Fowler's report. There had been security failures at all levels and that included patrols.

Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C): Would he confirm Tuite was not being kept at Brixton as opposed to a more distant high security location for the convenience of relatives who wished to visit him there?

Would he take this opportunity to assert that no particular privileges in this field are being allowed to IRA prisoners?

Mr Whitelaw: Brixton is the main category A prison for remand prisoners in London. There was nothing exceptional in Mr Tuite being placed there. There are no special privileges.

A prisoner on remand is in a different position from convicted prisoners as far as treatment is concerned.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab): If there are to be resignations they should be at the top and not a [illegible] and well respected governor.

Mr Whitelaw has told us a great deal of the factors which did not contribute to the escape and particularly about specific human weaknesses. What are they? What are the specific recommendations made to counter them? Will he ensure that restrictions imposed will not unnecessarily restrict the activities of those prisoners who do not require maximum security conditions?

Mr Whitelaw: Mr Kilroy-Silk cannot have it both ways. Mr Selby is not being asked to resign. He is being retained in the prison service. Mr Kilroy-Silk cannot say what has happened to Mr Selby is too much and in the next moment say it is not sufficient.

It is right in the circumstances, and Mr Selby properly accepted the responsibility himself, that he should, this having happened, move from being governor of Brixton. I do not think that really can be questioned. Equally he should not resign.

If I were to go into all the different human weaknesses I am advised I could prejudice some of the legal proceedings.

The changes that are to follow will be to ensure that the security arrangements which should have been carried out will be carried out. There will be no extra restrictions on prisoners other than high security.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab): Will Mr Whitelaw recollect that over-reaction by Mr Roy Jenkins to the Blake escape was generally seen afterward to be a major mistake and led to the deterioration in the regime in prisons.

How can publication of this report adversely affect the trial of anybody? If this report is not to be produced until after conviction of anybody connected with the escape it may never be produced as one of the prisoners has not been recovered and may not be recovered?

Mr Whitelaw: I do not think I wish to comment on the past. What I have done is fair in the circumstances to all concerned including the governor of the prison. I have not deliberately made him into a scapegoat.

About the proceedings, in view of the considerable trouble which has been caused in the media for other matters in other cases pending, I would be wise not to get into areas where I might be equally accused.

I would dearly love to publish the full report. I will do so as soon as the Attorney General allows me to do it.

Battery hen the most miserable creature

House of Lords

When the committee stage of the Wildlife and Countryside Bill was resumed the Earl of Onslow (C) received an assurance that the Government would consider fears which had been expressed that a future government might use the powers in the Bill to prohibit the use of sporting firearms.

The Earl of Onslow had moved an amendment to limit the powers in Clause 5 (Prohibition of certain methods of killing or taking wild birds.)

He said that as at present drafted it enabled a future minister to ban venery (hunting, shooting or fishing.) It might be possible for someone, who was so inclined, to move for the abolition of field sports by the back door.

Lord Mowbray, Segrave and Stourton (C), supporting the amendment, said the limitation it proposed was moderate and sensible. Without it, the Bill was wide open.

The Earl of Avon, a Lord in Waiting, said the Government recognized the fears expressed that some future government might choose to use the power to prohibit the use of sporting firearms. It wished carefully to consider the implications of the amendment.

As drawn it was too limiting, but it should be possible to insert a restrictive section which would be acceptable to all.

The amendment was withdrawn.

Lord Beaumont of Whitley moved an amendment to Clause 8 (Protection of captive birds) to include poultry in the provisions making it an offence to confine birds in cages not large enough to allow them to stretch their wings freely.

It is odd (he said) that if we are passing a Bill which includes provisions for preventing cruelty, we should exempt any particular bird as we here exempt poultry.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby (Lab) said that poultry were not in the Bill because the Government knew if it put them in it would have the whole of the battery hen industry on it like a ton of bricks.

This showed the hypocrisy of the British people when dealing with such moral issues as cruelty, kindness or ill-treatment. They wanted to be kind to birds, but kinder to some birds than others, and kinder to the birds they ate than those they did not.

Having food at the cheapest possible price was a dangerous trend in public opinion. To get food at the cheapest possible price, people would excuse all sorts of abominations to animals and the treatment of birds and animals.

I am sad about poultry (he said). The battery hen is the most miserable creature in the feathered world today and the situation is getting worse.

Earl Ferrars, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said poultry were excluded because this was a Bill to deal with wildlife and the countryside and was not the appropriate vehicle for altering legislation dealing with domestic or farm animals which were protected in different Acts.

The European Commission was carrying out a study into the welfare of battery hens to find out if there were alternative methods of production. It would be wrong to preempt their conclusions.

The amendment was withdrawn.

Lord Kilbracken (Lab) moved an amendment to include the Bewick Swan in the schedule of birds which were protected by special penalties at all times. The amendment was agreed to.

Lord Melchett (Lab), discussing schedule one (Birds which are protected by special penalties), said he was concerned at the removal of the sparrowhawk from the schedule. The Scottish Wildlife Trust said it was uncommon and are in many parts of Scotland where its presence might be expected. It was one of Britain's most spectacular and magnificent birds of prey and deserved protection.

The Earl of Avon, a Lord in Waiting, said the population of the sparrowhawk had recovered to 20,000 and was considered an excellent example of what putting species on the schedule could do. It was comparatively scarce in certain areas, but the Government was advised that normal protection was now adequate.

The Schedule was agreed to.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on Opposition motion on poverty.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (third day), Bill of Rights Bill, third reading.

Rights for parents of handicapped children

Criticism of the Government's decision to introduce the Education Bill to help children with special educational needs, without allocating extra resources, was ill-founded, Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said when he moved the second reading of the Bill.

Mr Carlisle (Runcorn, C) said any minister would like to be able to announce new resources to enable special and other schools to have more teachers, better trained teachers and more speech therapists to deal with the needs of special education.

But that we are not able to do so (he said) does not mean we ought to wring our hands and do nothing at this time.

Not all improvements were affected by additional resources and he was convinced that the better future everyone wanted for handicapped children could be brought nearer by the Bill's proposals.

If we hold back from getting the statutory framework right now (he continued), we will allow the law to hinder rather than to advance good practice and to condone rather than condemn bad practice.

The Bill would legislate on the proposals set out in the White Paper, Special Needs in Education, following the Warnock report. The present framework for the special education system was set up in the 1944 Education Act.

Views and ideas on what constituted handicap and on how to educate handicapped children had come a long way since that Act.

On criticism about resources, the Government was spending £250m on maintained special schools and an unknown sum in ordinary schools on various kinds of special provision and remedial teaching. There was surely scope within that spending for authorities to look again at the educational cost effectiveness of their present arrangements and to introduce improvements.

One important part of the Bill was its emphasis on the role of parents. If the new attitude to handicapped pupils was to mean anything, parents must be given opportunities and responsibilities like those given earlier to parents of children in ordinary schools.

The Government had constantly stressed that it wished to see as many children with special educational needs as possible educated in ordinary schools: That was embodied in the Bill.

However, the aim was not simply integration for its own sake. It was the provision of appropriate education for individuals. For many children this could and should be done in ordinary schools, but there must be safeguards.

Obvious safeguards were that the ordinary schools should be able to provide the child's need, that his presence should not prejudice the efficient education of those he would be with, and that resources should be efficiently used.

Another crucial criterion was the Government's belief that parental wishes should be represented wherever possible. By no means all parents with handicapped children felt that their children's best interests were necessarily best served by education in an ordinary school.

Too often when people talked about integration, they were thinking only of those who were physically handicapped but otherwise had normal or above average intelligence and ability. Less than 10 per cent of existing handicapped pupils were categorized as physically handicapped. By far the majority suffered some form of mental handicap.

With the intensive care and supervision required for many multi-handicapped or severely disturbed children, it was not always realistic to think in terms of education in an ordinary school. There was no simple short-cut to providing properly for those with severe needs. Integration could not be a cheap and easy option.

Regulations to be made under the Bill would prescribe that medical, psychiatric and educational advice must be obtained for each assessment as a basic menimum.

Parents must be informed if a local authority proposed to assess their child and would be able to request such an assessment themselves. They would be able to make recommendations and submit evidence, and they must be informed of examinations of a child and would be entitled to be prtsent.

After assessment, parents must be informed of the results and the reason why a statement was being made, as well as being sent a copy in draft. If parents were to be properly involved and consulted, this detail was essential.

The Government was providing a further safeguard for parents because they would have an ultimate appeal direct to the Secretary of State when after making an assessment, a local education authority decided not to make a statement. This was a realistic safeguard of the interests of parents.

The regulations he would make covering the approval of special schools would contain new requirements as to the involvements of parents and teachers in the running of non-maintained special schools. The Government was consulting with the schools over the best way to secure this. The matter was difficult, but they were anxious to do what they could.

There would be entirely new powers to make regulations about independent schools which primarily catered for handicapped children. They depended on local authority placement and public funds so it seemed reasonable that where an independent school sought to receive the placement of children for whom statements had been made, it should be asked to meet certain standards. Many good independent schools concerned would welcome this move.

The Bill provided that in future local educational authorities would not be able to close a special school without first giving notice of their intention, and securing the approval of the Secretary of State. This would put right an existing anomaly.

The Bill put into legislation much of what was already good practice among the best of the local education authorities, but not everything could be achieved by legislation. As Warnock had empahsized, there must be changes of attitude.

Attitudes were changing and would do so faster if the law which governed the education of the handicapped was not out of time and outdated. They were very much legislating for the future and introducing changes which would enchance the role of parents and ensured children were looked an as individuals.

Opposition complain about lack of resources

Mr Neil Kinnock, chief Opposition spokesman on education (Bedwelty, Lab), said it was unfortunate that not much attention appeared to have been paid to the Warlock recommendations. It was not a controversial Bill in the classic parliamentary sense and would not provoke much partisan disagreement.

The Bill would do little to resolve the problems which surrounded the provision of education and the special needs of a large number of children and young people. This arguments would continue unabated.

The Opposition was willing to accept and encourage the implementation of the Bill despite its shortcomings, but Labour MPs hoped to be able to amend it and secure resources for improving the provision of special education. They also wanted the Government to revise its attitude towards the adequacy of the necessary legal framework.

The fact that the Bill was only a half measure was sad and disappointing. Superficially it offered a statutory agreement with the views expressed by Warnock. The Opposition welcomed the Bill as a small mercy for which they were grateful.

Any challenge which the Opposition would make would be related to omissions and not to the provisions within it. The greatest and most disappointing omission from the Bill and related Government policies was the lack of any attempt to provide the necessary resources for improving and developing special education.

Until proper resources were allocated they would continue in the vicious circle of inadequate provision which encouraged the widespread view that special education needs were marginal and even obscure. That in turn reduced the effective claim of special education on resources which in turn further resulted in inadequate provision. The duty of the Government was to break through that vicious circle.

The Opposition was not even satisfied that the statement last March that the Government's expenditure plans provided for the maintenance of expenditure on special education at its present level was being implemented or had real validity.

Since March special education had not been exempted from the cuts imposed on local government by the Government's financial strategy. The sad tradition was that special education was in the front line whenever there was a new regime of cuts.

The decision of Oxfordshire to cease provision for the over 16s was a grave consequence of the cuts policy.

He found it difficult to accept the Secretary of State's statement that there was scope for redeployment. How did one redeploy that which did not exist? The redeployment that was taking place was the freezing of teaching posts and educational welfare appointments, cuts and closure of units, and the complete closure of long-established special units for the over 16s.

As Warnock said, falling rolls provided a unique opportunity for improvements in the quality of the services. That opportunity was being forsaken. The Bill did not effectively extend duties of local education authorities to make proper provision for the under-fives.

It did not provide for the further education outside school of young people over 16 with special needs.

Neither the Bill nor any other government policy offered more than platitudes about the improvement and extension of teacher training and retraining which Warnock said were vital.

The danger was that three years after the publication of the report, without resources they would be engaging in no more than an exchange of words. In this international year of the disabled the Government's first act had been to come forward with a no-cost Bill.

It had decided to leave the weight of initiative to local authority resources and discretion, thereby permitting the worst to prevaricate and dodge without enabling the best who would like to get better to improve.

The handicapped and disabled had been smothered with sympathy and piety. Now they needed effective action. The Bill would simply and rightly provoke stronger and more persistent demand for new and extra resources.

The Opposition would make that demand with others outside the House and continue to make it until the self-evident needs of special education were properly and fully met. There was no cheap way to do that.

Need for specialist teachers

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing, North, C) said the need to integrate children as much as possible in school life was fundamental to the Bill. It would have to be recognised that there would have to be specialist teachers.

Special schools would decrease in size and number and some would disappear. That would release resources for the handling of special children in the normal schools.

Mr Alfred Morris (Manchester, Wythenshawe, Lab) said while the House would welcome the Bill as far as it went there were widespread fears that it would soon become a dead letter because of the absence of adequate resources.

Mr John Hannam (Exeter, C), secretary of the all-party disablement group, said the proposed new method of assessment was much more subjective than the existing one and gave local education authorities a lot of discretion.

I fear (he said) we will be opening up further discrimination if we do not give children with special educational needs more protection.

A duty should be placed on local authorities to provide facilities and services related to special educational needs.

The recession meant that maximum use of existing resources was required. That meant improved coordination between education, welfare and social services and the voluntary organizations for handicapped children.

They should not be frightened of laying specific requirements on local education authorities. The new rate support grant formula was a step in that, so why not set up a proper framework for handicapped children.

Mr Lewis Carter-Jones (Eccles, Lab) said that the Bill was the Warnock report without resources: a shabby sham.

The chip could do more to transform the lives of the disabled than any other single factor. There was a distinct possibility of work at home at the end of a computer terminal.

But before that point was reached the disabled had to be given the chance of education. They had to know something about what life was about. They had to be integrated as far as possible.

Mr Malcolm Thornton (Liverpool, Garston, C) said it was necessary to make certain that if money was to be provided it was going to be spent. If the Secretary of State was able to get his Treasury colleagues to give him specific sums there was no guarantee if they went into the rate support grant that they would be spent for the purpose he intended.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L) said the Bill did not go far enough. It did not enable anybody to do anything they could not have done before, and did not provide any extra money.

The Warnock report was brilliant, but apart from this Bill they were not likely to have any more legislation based on it during the lifetime of this Government.

Mr Hudson Davies (Caerphilly, Lab) said most parents wished to be involved in some way in the education of their children and this was far more critical in the case of handicapped children.

The Bill was a step in the right direction in that it would give parents a defined role in the education of their children but he was concerned that they were still not to be given a right of access to the records and reports on the basis of which decisions about the education of their children would be made by local authorities.

His great fear was that the special school system might be dismantled in favour of the better concept of integration in ordinary schools without doing it properly and without paying the cost. That would be the worst of both worlds.

Mr Frank Field, an Opposition spokesman on education, (Birkenhead, Lab), said for the Secretary of State this had been a lost opportunity, an opportunity for ending the system of educational apartheid between those classified as handicapped and those who were not. If the resources had been willed this Bill would have ranked second only to the 1944 Education Act but instead of a measure that was a roaring lion they had a mouse, and a dead mouse at that.

The Government had to say how it was to address itself to the three priorities of Warnock—support for parents, teacher training and further education.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, Under Secretary for Education (Brent, North, C), said the Bill established a legal framework. It was not about resources.

Once again the Government had strengthened the hand of the Secretary of State to see what was happening about the closure of schools. No special school could be closed, after the Bill became an Act without the Secretary of State's agreement.

The Bill was read a second time.

Child benefit

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L) asked the Secretary of State for Social Services how many families in Great Britain and Northern Ireland were in receipt of child benefit.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary said in a written reply: On December 31, 1979, there were 7,160,775 families receiving child benefit in Great Britain and 219,600 in Northern Ireland.

Minister to have talks this week with chairman of Arts Council

Mr Paul Channon, Minister of State for Education and Science with responsibility for the arts, said that he intended to discuss with the chairman of the Arts Council this week the disquiet expressed by MPs about cuts in grants to some arts companies.

Mrs Renee Short (Wolverhampton, North-East, Lab) asked how many arts companies received grants from the Arts Council in 1979-80 and how many would do so in 1980-81.

Mr Channon (Southend, West, C): The Arts Council of Great Britain tell me that they made grants to 1,234 organizations. The total for the present financial year will not be known exactly until the end of the year, but I am told it is not likely to be lower.

Mrs Short: Forty-one or so companies have had their grants reduced by the Arts Council this year. Tourism earns something like £11m a year largely due to our theatres and museums.

Many towns will have to close their theatres, thus creating unemployment not only in the theatre but in the other supportive tourist industries.

What can he do to check this philistine Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer, and how can he do a proper job as he is not in the Cabinet?

Mr Channon: I do not understand how any reasonable person can accuse the Government of being philistine when my predecessor announced an increase of the Arts Council grants of £10m.

I understand the feelings among some theatre organizations who no longer receive a grant, and I sympathise with them.

There will be occasions when changes have to be made. I cannot comment on the individual merits of each case. That is for the Arts Council but I will discuss this with them.

Mr Andrew Faulds, Opposition spokesman on the Arts (Warley, East, Lab): The precipitousness of cuts in Arts Council grants have gravely endangered a large number of community arts and theatre groups.

Mr Channon: The Arts Council grant has not gone down; it has gone up by a substantial amount. Criticism, if any, rests on how the Arts Council has distributed its grant. That is not a matter in which any Minister for the Arts has taken part before. I will discuss this matter with the Arts Council.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South-West Staffordshire, C): Could he see the director general and the chairman of the Arts Council urgently because there is concern about some of the 41 cuts made?

Can he make it abundantly plain once again that there is no question of the Government making the cuts but that it is the Arts Council using its delegated autonomy.

Mr Channon: I am seeing the chairman of the Arts Council later this week and will make him aware of the feeling on both sides of the House.

Mr Faulds: The damage has been done by the precipitousness of the cuts. It is this that so many find so unacceptable and damaging.

Mr Channon: I will raise that with the chairman.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L): It is the suddenness of the cuts which have done such a great disservice. The National Youth Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company at the open air theatre may go to the wall as a result.

If he cannot find any more money this year, will he have a future policy of phasing out rather than totally cutting off grant aid?

Mr Channon: There is keen interest in all parts of the House, and some disquiet, as to the way in which the cuts were announced. I will take that up with the chairman of the Arts Council.

Many sections of BSC showing that competitiveness offers best hope

It was a matter of great significance and importance that a major Japanese company, Nissan-Datsun, should be considering investment at this time in a development area in Britain as part of its entry into Europe, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said during questions. He added that the same could be said about other overseas companies considering major investment in Wales.

He was answering Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon, Plaid Cymru) who had said that talk of competitiveness in British industry often meant closing down factories in areas like Wales.

How would Mr Edwards ensure adequate regional policy to keep the economy going so that they had something when expansion came?

Mr Edwards (Pembroke, C): I believe in continuing regional policy and assisting and cushioning the effects of change.

Earlier, Mr Edwards had said that between May 1979 and January 1981 the level of unemployment in Wales, seasonally adjusted and including school leavers, increased by 52,200.

Mr Barry Jones (East, Flint, Lab): These are damning figures. How can he remain in a hard faced Cabinet systematically denuding Wales of its industrial base?

What hope, help and encouragement can he offer steelworkers, textile workers, paper makers and Vauxhall car workers in my constituency who pathetically seek work, particularly in the town of Flint where 32 per cent male unemployment exists and father competes against son for jobs?

Mr Edwards: The unemployment in his constituency is serious though Flint is part of a travel to work area where unemployment is at 15.7 per cent and not 32 per cent. We have to look at travel to work areas to make a proper assessment.

The principal hope for recovery of industry and the economy is increasing competitiveness. Already many sections of the British Steel Corporation have shown that this offers the best hope for recovery.

The choice of site is one for the Datsun company after a proper assessment of its requirements.

Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flint, C): Which does Mr Edwards consider more helpful to unemployment in Wales—the Labour Party's policy of getting out of the EEC or Plaid Cymru's discouraging inward business men coming in on the grounds that the second homes would be unwelcome in Wales?

Mr Edwards: I would not wish to make a choice of evils. But I have just attended a lunch for Japanese business people and I emphasized how welcome this inward investment by major companies would be.

Clearly there are many sites and areas in Wales which Nissan could consider and it will be the job of all concerned to draw attention to the benefits which would be obtained at these sites and to seek to meet the company's requirements.

Mr Alec Jones, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales (Rhondda, Lab): He is fortunate in having the ability to avoid making a choice of evils, but for the 145,000 unemployed in Wales there is little choice.

While I can understand Mr Edwards choosing the seasonally adjusted figure, there are 62,500 extra unemployed in Wales now because of his policies.

Will he confirm that while the percentage figure is given as 13.4 per cent, this masks many areas of much higher unemployment, including Tenby which has male unemployment of 22.5 per cent.

Mr Edwards: I gave the seasonally adjusted figures for the same reason that he always used them when he was in government during a period when unemployment was doubling in Wales and when, in my own constituency, it was about the same as it is today.

Archaeology

Early Swahili town discovered on Kenya coast

By Mark Horton
Department of Archaeology
Cambridge University

Important new evidence has been found for the early settlement of the Lamu Archipelago, the traditional centre of the Swahili culture, on the east coast of Kenya.

The extensive site of Shanga was investigated by a team from the National Museums of Kenya, with archaeologists from Cambridge University, supported by Operation Drake. It has yielded evidence of public buildings and long-distant trade before the first European settlements.

Shanga had been little known until the town's extent and importance was recognized during a brief survey in 1965 and 1966 by the British Institute in Eastern Africa. The institute's own excavations at the site of Manda near by have shown convincingly that the area was first settled by traders at least from the ninth century AD. A sophisticated culture, part African and part Islamic, developed on the coastal sites, and in places still exists.

Ruined stone and coral built towns occur all along the coastline, forming part of a complex literate civilization with trading contacts over much of the Indian Ocean. The study of the sites is in its infancy; no well preserved pre-Portuguese town has been completely mapped or extensively studied, with the possible exception of Gedi.

The town of Shanga was located on the south-westerly point of the island of Pate, at a place that could be the first landfall while sailing by the south-west monsoon from the Gulf. Set among sand dunes, on a small peninsula, the town had a wide, shallow beach on the seaward side and a silted mangrove creek at the back, that could formerly have been a harbour. The surviving walls are all made of coral and lime and contain 12 acres, with a further area given over to a big cemetery with more than 340 stone built tombs; the remaining walls were all covered in thick bush.

More than 130 houses were surveyed. A town wall surrounded the site, with traces of five town gates, and a sea wall, now partly eroded by the sea, was another unique feature of the site. A complex of walls in the town centre can best be interpreted as a "palace" similar to that excavated at Gedi. The exceptional preservation of Shanga, due to its remoteness and the lack of stone-robbing, has provided one of the largest groups of pre-Portuguese Swahili buildings and the most complete plan of a medieval Swahili town.

The trial excavations on the site disclosed a long sequence of occupation more than 10 feet deep and spanning the tenth to the fourteenth centuries AD, when the town seems to have been abandoned.

In the tenth-century levels, simple timber buildings were found, including possible round houses. They were replaced by coral and daub, and then lime mortar and coral houses of the type still in use today.

The architectural sophistication is not matched in the changes in the local pottery styles, where there is a marked conservatism of technique and decoration. The range of imported pottery, however, seems to indicate that the town increased its long-distance trading contacts. Porcelain and celadons came from China and Sgraffiato wares from the Gulf, as well as glass and beads.

The excavation did not reveal why the town was abandoned in the fourteenth or early fifteenth century, but it is possible that the water supply was fouled or the harbour was silted up.

The architectural changes can best be illustrated by the project's investigation of the Jamia or Friday mosque, the most sophisticated building of the town, and one of three mosques there. It is rectangular, with courtyards to east and west and a roofed, aisled hall in the centre, supported by stone columns. The mihrab fills much of the northern wall (the direction towards Mecca) and, although it had collapsed, the excavations managed to reconstruct its elevation.

With three arch orders, architrave, and carved coral panels and spandrels, the arch was surrounded by a Koranic inscription in naskh script, possibly of the twelfth or thirteenth century. The mihrab formed part of a rare type of vaulted mosque. When a new mosque was built on the same site the vault survived as a fragment of the south wall, and the old mihrab was retained.

The rebuilt walls had a flat roof placed over them and 12 curious pillars were placed over the roof, pointing skywards. At the same time, the western, or washing courtyard, was completely reorganized to take a tank, a well, and water conduits. It was altered again with the insertion of cho or lavatories at the north end, changes that all may indicate increasing religious orthodoxy.

The destruction levels above that final phase contain material of the fourteenth century, providing a useful terminus ante quem for the earlier phases. Further excavation beneath the stone mosque revealed earlier walls on the same alignment, but constructed of mud and coral. These may yet prove to be some of the earliest Muslim buildings on the coast of East Africa.

It is curious that Shanga is nowhere mentioned in any reliable Arab or European source, despite its importance and size, unless it is referred to in the mention of Shanghu in the Arabic version of the Kilwa Chronicle as being one of the first towns, traditionally founded from Persia on the coast.

Pamphlet series: The Aerial Archaeology Foundation has launched a series of introductory readers in pamphlet form under the general title of Orbit (our Archaeology Correspondent writes). The first issue is A History of Archaeological Air Photography in Great Britain by R. P. Dowdey.

The text, in numbered sections like a committee report, takes the subject from the first balloon photograph of Stonehenge (1906) through to the establishment of Aerial Archaeology as the first journal devoted entirely to the subject. There is a short, useful bibliography which unaccountably omits J. K. St. Joseph's 50-part series of articles in Antiquity, completed last year, which discussed many important discoveries and developing techniques.

Orbit, vol 1 (The Aerial Archaeology Foundation, 6 High Green, Elton, Peterborough, Cambs PE8 6RX; 60p).



THE ARTS

The energetic virtues of brilliant draughtsmanship

Honoré Daumier/ Paintings from Nature
Royal Academy

John Hubbard
Warwick Arts Trust

John Piper: The Sitwells' Montegufoni
Maclean Gallery

Keith Grant: The Sun
Browse and Darby

In many ways, Daumier is the nineteenth-century equivalent of a classic Hollywood film director. His was essentially a popular art, and he had little to do with the concept of art as such: he was too busy doing what he did to worry his head over too-nice definitions of exactly what it was. He was therefore left for discovery by people who believed that the achievement is more important than the intention, and did not need to be constantly told that they were seeing art in order to recognize it. And his work was based very closely on his human material, his lawyers, actors and *bons bourgeois* serving just the same function as Hollywood stars, and his vital ingredient was energy.

Energy is what immediately strikes you as you go round the show of Daumiers from the Armand Hammer Collection at the Royal Academy (until March 15). Daumier would have been difficult to fit into the great French debate about the relative importance of outline versus colour—had anyone bothered to try to fit him in—since his virtues are all derived from his amazing brilliance as a draughtsman, but it is a brilliance that Ingres, the great Classicist exponent of draughtsmanship, would hardly have cared to recognize. In his economy of means, his speed of workmanship, trusting everything to the quickness of the hand in following the impressions of the eye, he obviously anticipates the Impressionists, though again his work does not really look like that of any of them except sometimes Degas. Line for him is rather what colour is for the Impressionists—it is the way of making the energy buried in his subjects articulate.

The Hammer Collection assemblage of Daumier, which must be about the most extensive in private hands, consists largely of his lithographs from *Charivari*, all, it goes without saying, in as near as possible immaculate condition, even when in the ordinary published form with letterpress on the back; the collection is particularly rich in real proofs before the letters (as opposed to the many manipulated ones in circulation), often with handwritten comments by Philipon or Huart, the editors of *Charivari*, and occasionally by Daumier himself, to authenticate them. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that Daumier was not responsible for the often verbose early captions (parallel to those on *Keene's Punch* cartoons), and when, later on, he was important enough to impose his own ideas, he favoured sharp one-word captions, leaving the image to speak for itself.

It is enjoyable to see all these lithographs together, but the experience is not unique. What makes the show essential viewing is rather the 19 original paintings and drawings by Daumier, and the very full collection of his sculptures, all cast posthumously, including all 36 of the small busts of parliamentarians. There is one of the best (though most subdued) oil versions of *Don Quixote*, a subject which obsessed Daumier, the *Scène de comédie*, with its amazing evocation of stage lighting, and such wonderful sketches as the impressionistic *Spectateurs* and, simplest and most telling of all, *Un Wagon de troisième classe*, where a few quick lines in red chalk on blue paper summon up a whole world.

Still at the Royal Academy until March 15, but upstairs in the Diploma Gallery, is a fascinating Arts Council exhibition with the deceptively general-sounding title *Painting from Nature*. In fact the subject is quite specific: the show concerns itself with the gradual establishment, between the early seventeenth century and the mid-nineteenth, of a whole tradition of sketching in oils directly from nature, either as a way of building up a stock of materials which might later be used in elaborate studio compositions, or, latterly, as an end in itself. We begin with Claude and stop short on the brink of Impressionism.

It is probably that old English, Romantic (and especially English-Romantic) taste for the sketch over the finished work which inclines me to find the Constables here much more vivid and appealing than the often rather drab, overworked large oils he was subsequently to derive from them. And there is an undeniable charm about Stubb's *Newmarket Heath, with the Rubbing-down House*, just because it is so brisk and businesslike, so patently designed entirely for himself, as an *aide-memoire*. But the real delight of the show is the opportunity it affords to learn something one did not know and make contact with absolutely unfamiliar artistic intelligences.

It transpires that some of the most important links in the chain are virtually forgotten painters, such as Pierre-Henri de Valenciennes (1750-1819), who wrote a treatise on landscape, campaigned successfully for the setting up of a *Prix de Rome* for the genre, and was already painting landscape



Daumier: *Don Quixote et Sancho Panza*

sketches which, at a glance, might have been done a century after his death. Then there is the brilliant Achille-Etna (Etna?) Michallon, first winner of that Prix de Rome, who died full of promise at the age of 26, not to mention François-Marius Granet, accepted as a master in his home-town of Aix and ignored elsewhere, whose snow scenes in Italy and Paris, probably painted in the 1820s, would look completely at home in an Impressionist show, and Corot's reclusive friend François-Auguste Ravier.

Enthusiasm for landscape, rekindled by *Painting from Nature*, may be further fanned at three more shows, otherwise difficult to classify, which are at present on in London. John Hubbard, who is the subject of a retrospective at the Warwick Arts Trust, 33 Warwick Square, until March 7, is certainly easier to fit into the grand prospect of landscape painting than anywhere else. Though American, he has lived and worked in this country since 1960, after a couple of years in Italy. And from the outset he has been *sui generis*. The very earliest pictures in the show, Dorset landscapes of 1962, show a clear influence from (or at least a clear likemindedness with) de Staël, but after that Hubbard's paintings are instantly recognizable and quite unlike anyone else's.

At most, you could say that he belongs, in very general terms, to John Hoyland's proposed subterranean British tradition of free-form landscape-based abstraction. His paintings dissolve the given facts of English landscape, the rocks and stones and trees, into a tantalizing dapple of colour: aided by the titles, you can almost but not quite make out their literal subject-matter, but there is such sensuous delight to be derived from the painted surfaces that you happily give up any idea of trying.

It is probably this very sensuous quality which has stood in Hubbard's way to wider recognition: somehow, some kind of puritanical thing nudges the British into formulations like "Well, of course his paintings are very pretty, but are they *serious*...?" Despite inclusion in a four-in-hand show devoted to landscape at the Serpentine in 1973 and regular one-man shows at the New Art Centre and Fischers, he has remained marginal in critical estimation. But now, with 20 years of his career spread out before us, we can see without difficulty that he is desperately serious about the most serious thing to a painter: paint itself. True, it seems almost immoral that a serious painter should be so utterly approachable, so totally permeated with the spirit of delight. But if we really grit our teeth I am sure we can learn to live with it.

Excessive approachability has also generally been John Piper's problem. As with his friend John Betjeman's poetry, it all seems too easy to be real and earnest as well. And it may well be that Piper remains almost wilfully a *petit maître*, who found his manner very early in his career and has really clung to it ever since, through thick and thin, an important abstract period in the 1930s and flirtations with splash and dribble in the 1960s. All the same, once we situate him in the long and honourable tradition of British topographical artists, we should not need reminding how very good he is. For anyone who needs a refresher course, the show at the Maclean Gallery, 3, St George Street, until February 20, is required viewing. It consists of the series of coloured drawings he did for Osbert Sitwell shortly after the war of the Sitwell's Italian home, Montegufoni, many of them used to illustrate Sitwell's autobiography. Here the subject, with its crumbling baroque intricacies, is ideal, and the whole series, if falling off slightly in intensity from the best of Piper's work as a war artist, remains a matchless monument to the melancholy romanticism of wartime British art.

Keith Grant (Browse and Darby, until February 21) stands similarly aside from fashion. A contemporary of John Hubbard (they were born in 1930 and 1931 respectively), he also has drawn all his inspiration from landscape, and in recent years almost entirely from Polar landscape, with its water and ice and the unearthly effects of the midnight sun and the aurora borealis. His new show is again devoted to this small but infinitely various body of subject matter; and he brings things full circle, in that, instead of reducing landscape to abstraction, he has sought out landscapes which are themselves almost abstract to paint in the most specific manner imaginable. If Muhammad the painter will not go to the mountain of abstraction, then the mountain must needs come to him.

John Russell Taylor

RPO/Masur
Festival Hall

William Mann

The special attraction of Kurt Masur's concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra on South Bank on Sunday, was, as generally predicted, Richard Strauss's Four Last Songs with Jessye Norman to sing them. We had also expected her as vocalist in Berg's suite from *Lulu*, which began the programme; but she asked to be excused Lulu's song, having just risen from a bed of sickness, so it was omitted, together with the dying sentences of Geschwitz in the final Adagio. Miss Norman did offer a douceur to the disappointed, by singing Strauss's "Morgen" as an encore.

Ever since Kirsten Flagstad introduced Strauss's *Vier letzte Lieder* to the world, nearly 31 years ago in the Albert Hall, it has been fascinating to explore them through the voices of other, very different interpreters, silvery or pearly, this or that phrase or passage turned with special eloquence. Jessye Norman, more than any singer I have heard sing them, brought back their first interpreter to mind, by the sheer, unstinted opulence of voice she brought to them.

It was quickly appreciated that Strauss's farewell to his favourite voice used it almost instrumentally, so freely does he let it soar, and so generously does he prolong the lines of poetry with rapturous melismas. Miss Norman poured out her gorgeous range of tones more like an extra orchestra than one solo instrument, especially in the last verse of *Beim Schlafengehen* and in the first song, *Frühling*; although it should be added that she matched the orchestral filigree of *September*, exquisitely weighted and balanced by Masur, and spun a soft line of lovely serenity in the fourth song, *Im Abendrot*.

Masur had taken a cool, careful view of the *Lulu* suite, properly eventful in the full sequence, and relishing the melodious warmth of the Adagio, but preferring to understate the passion. Likewise, after the interval Mozart's Jupiter Symphony was given a debonair but respectful reading, a full one in terms of repeats; the finale glistened beneath the nicely judged thematic argument, the effect of the music quite formal and almost non-committal.

Teresa Berganza
Covent Garden

Stanley Sadie

Teresa Berganza was in sparkling form for her recital on Sunday with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. I do not mean that there were vocal pyrotechnics, rather that her singing is as alive as ever, her voice as characterful and beguiling, her lively spirit always shining through.

Best of all were the Haydn arias with which she started; unfamiliar pieces, these, written for insertion in operas by Cimarosa. The first, a piece in an *Impresario*-type opera for a singer who wants to play a country girl, let her, as it were, offer a characterization of a characterization which she did with gentle wit, charm, and immaculate technique, shaping the rural rhythms and turns of phrase precisely and economically. The second, a moral lesson about constancy, she did with many mischievous little touches of phrasing, a delicate staccato, and some very exactly articulated ornaments.

Her voice is beautifully even, perfectly controlled, and has a ring, a hint of huskiness, all its own. In the Handel arias she song from Ruggiero's role in *Alcina*, one she has recorded and sung memorably at Aix, she was not quite so much at one with the style: "Verdi prati" seemed curiously cold, wanting in intensity of tone and warmth of line, though "Stà nell Ircana" had ample fire and attack as well as brilliant divisions. As an encore she sang "Voi che sapete" as subtly, as suggestively as ever.

In the Handel pieces the Scottish CO seemed stylistically unsure; "Mio bel tesoro" had a richly romantic cello and a wambling harpsichord, "Verdi prati" no harpsichord at all. But elsewhere they showed themselves a group of some distinction. They began with Haydn's Symphony No 49, of which Roderick Brydon directed a poised, concentrated reading, taut in rhythm, exact in ensemble, vigorous in attack, with due feeling for the dark F minor emotions of the opening Adagio and plenty of fire in the main Allegro and the finale. I particularly liked the firm, well-formed string tone. In Dvořák's Czech Suite they played in more relaxed fashion; Mr Brydon brought life to its dance rhythms and gave the admirable woodwind section the opportunities they needed to shade its warm-hearted melodies.

Electric Phoenix
Round House

Paul Griffiths

If within the next fortnight you come across a group of four people making strange noises into microphones, look closely. Either you have happened upon some ghastly cabaret quartet or you have crossed paths with Electric Phoenix, who are currently engaged on one of the Arts Council's Contemporary Music Network tours. If the latter, stick around, for birds of this feather have a way of disappearing.

Part of the excellence of Electric Phoenix comes from their recognition that sophisticated electronics must entirely change the nature of vocal performance. The normal singer's techniques of projection and individual expression become rather irrelevant, and so it makes sense that these four musicians perform facing each other, not their audience, for in many ways their manner has to be that of a string quartet, weaving textures of sounds, and quite extraordinary sounds at that.

But the liberation of the voice from singing can also be an embarrassment, and it is surely not by accident that the two most successful pieces on their programme are at least to some degree funny. Roger Marsh's *Not a Soul but Ourselves*... is a pleasantly lighthearted play on extracts from *Finnegans Wake*, of which composers these days would seem to be the principal readers. William Brooks's *Madrigals* include a snarled, American degradation of Gibbons's "Silver Swan" text and, less happily, a tastelessly condescending quodlibet on American vernacular music to words by Stephen Foster.

The other two works are only less successful because they try for more. Particularly is this true of Rolf Gehlhaar's *Worldline*, which goes the whole hog and asks the singers to become pure generators of sound in slow and slowly changing cloudscapes. There are many beautiful things here, such as the series of harmonics that open and close this piece, but half an hour is a long time to be savouring them.

Half the length and a lot more appealing is Tim Souster's *Mareas*, where the live singers are less important than a four-channel tape of marvellous electronic sounds, ocean swells and magical voices, giving the impression of an underwater vault echoing with music and the words of Neruda.

LSO/Hickox
Festival Hall

Noël Goodwin

Among the musical anniversaries this year is that of *Belshazzar's Feast*, which helped to bring fame and a certain notoriety to Sir William Walton at a Leeds festival 50 years ago. Anticipating the month of its première, the London Symphony Orchestra marshalled its associated chorus for an afternoon programme on Sunday, gave charge of the concert to its chorus director, Richard Hickox, assembled the extra brass players in groups of seven on either side of the choir, and gave vent to the work's undiminished barbaric vigour.

The acoustics of this hall benefit the more aggressive passages, especially the parade of heathen gods, in which Mr Hickox secured some forcefully dramatic singing from the chorus, whom he happily persuaded not to shrink from the more violent demands made upon them. Indeed, it was a particular pleasure not to hear them merely echo the baritone's description of the King's downfall but practically to snatch the word "slain" from his mouth in their own great shout. John Shirley-Quirk effectively delivered his catalogue of Babylon's riches as well as describing the writing on the wall.

Altogether it was a graphically pictorial performance, which gained from the rhythmic incisiveness the conductor conveyed to singers and orchestra alike. His measured tread in the early part helped to intensify the music's emotional commitment as the drama developed, and only the irony of the quieter episode concerning the wailing merchants lacked something of its musical point before the final exultant Alleluias. The orchestral playing throughout was as attentive to detail as it was sharply defined in ensemble textures.

The concert was given an unusual choral preface in Hugo Wolf's *Morning Hymn*, which reaches a climactic volume more appropriate to high noon than sunrise, but enabled the chorus to sing themselves in, as it were. In between there must have been nostalgia for some with the presence of Moura Lympany in Rachmaninov's C minor Piano Concerto, and pleasure for many in her broadly eloquent but never indulgent account of it. She had the warm support of an orchestra who did not underplay its familiarity, but allowed us to sense the echo of a sigh within it.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Book review

Eva Perón
By Nicholas Fraser and Marysa Navarro
(*André Deutsch, £6.95*)

Eva Perón was interesting not so much for her own personality, which was remarkably banal, but for the extraordinary hold she had over a great part of the Argentine people. In this latest study, Nicholas Fraser and Marysa Navarro outline her career and give a very readable account of some of the high spots—her rise from an obscure village in the *pampa*, her role as distributor of largesse to the poor, and the adulation of the huge *crowds* which used to gather to see her. But they somehow fail to explain how such a phenomenon could come about, or the nature of the Peronist system of which she became such an important part. The close-up descriptions make compelling reading, but one would have liked the authors to stand back rather more and place Evita in the context of Argentine society and politics.

Peronism was, after all, unique to Argentina and has had a profound effect on the way it has developed—or failed to do so. The present military régime regards Peronism as the source of most of the country's troubles, while much of the population still looks back on the time of Perón as a golden age, and on Evita as one of its lasting symbols. Nicholas Fraser and Marysa Navarro are broadly sympathetic to Evita, and they are undoubtedly right in thinking that many of the stories which circulated about her were malicious inventions by, for instance, the resentful *oligarquía*. But Peronism had many ugly features, not least its corruption and the repression of the opposition, and there is much too much readiness here to give Evita the benefit of the doubt.

Still, it is an amazing story. Eva Perón was born in the remote village of Los Toldos, one of several illegitimate children of Juan Duarte, whose surname she took. She was always sensitive about her illegitimacy, and her birth certifi-



Eva Perón in 1950

cate eventually disappeared. She met Perón in Buenos Aires, where she had gone to earn a living as an actress, became his mistress, and very quickly emerged as a power in her own right. The authors describe the influence of the Eva Perón Foundation, to which businesses and unions were virtually required to make donations, and the extraordinary audiences at which Evita used to hand out money and presents to poor people.

When she became ill, it caused consternation. "People began to perform 'feats' or 'sacrifices' for her health; cripples or boys with broken legs walked to Luján (a pilgrimage centre) from remote parts of Argentina, groups of people travelled great distances carrying the image of the Virgin ... with the inscription underneath 'Por la salud de Evita'." After she died, at the age of 33, there were plans for a monumental tomb, but Perón fell from power before it was completed, and her embalmed body was spirited away, to be recovered some years later in an Italian cemetery.

Today her body is in an unmarked tomb in Buenos Aires, and former President María Estela Perón, whom Perón married after Evita's death, is under house arrest. But Peronism lives on, and the Evita legend with it.

Peter Strafford

London debuts

The piano figured prominently in last week's debut recitals, and by far the most completely satisfying playing came from Yolande Wrigley, who, in her Wigmore Hall recital with the cellist Mary Mundy, played sonatas by Beethoven, Debussy and Prokofiev with Schumann's *Stucke in Volkston*, Op 102.

The opening Beethoven Op 5 No 2 Sonata revealed at once Miss Wrigley's freshness of approach, sureness of technique and, in the intensely sustained yet always supple Adagio, a strong and sensitive musicianship. Mary-Mundy's cello playing had a purity and finesse of timbre and intonation, but was not always crisp and virile enough when it needed to be: the cello still needs to find a comparable beauty of tone and an equally memorable character in this partnership. The Schumann pieces were delightfully inflected, capricious and exquisitely etched in turns, with the cello sweetly penetrating in its top register, while the grander Prokofiev Sonata Op 119, though it at times lacked quite that magisterial grasp to make oratory out of rhetoric, was assured and powerfully projected through a surprisingly mature musical rapport.

The young American Richard Reid presented a formidable display of powerfully disciplined pianism in his Purcell Room debut, from the precise control, through fingers and feet, of tone and half-tone and the strongly and intelligently built fuge in Hindemith's Sonata No 3 to the pure, bright lyricism and massive intensity of his Rachmaninov *Etudes-Tableaux*.

But this discipline and intelligence need to be warmed and substantiated by a more mature, unfettered response to the music: his technical command of, for instance, the Schumann Op 17 Fantasia needs to he made only a vehicle for the simple immediacy of much of what it expresses. Mr Reid's hard tone and lack of grace in the cantabile passages were symptomatic of an emotional diffidence which is bound to elicit a less than adequate response, too, on the part of the audience. Likewise, in the nimbly and elegantly dexterous Debussy Etudes, we only occasionally glimpsed the poetry within the study, the heart that must fertilize the head.

Another American, Hugo Goldenzweig, gave his London debut to a thin, afternoon Wigmore Hall audience. Such dispiriting circumstances made me at first give him the benefit of the doubt in his lifeless and often laboured reading of the Beethoven Sonata in E major. But Mr Goldenzweig seems to lack as yet a deep enough understanding of both the emotional and musical structure of much that he plays; nor is his technique yet refined enough to articulate clearly and searchingly the colours and textures of the Debussy Preludes or to give the inner parts of Schumann's Sonata in G minor necessary warmth and energy. Of William Schimmel's extraordinary and aimless pastiche, *Danza Serpentina*, here given its first performance, the least said the better: this, and the flashy Ginastera Sonata "1952" which followed it showed, at least, enterprising if ultimately unrewarding programming.

Hilary Finch

Riverside Studios at Hammersmith are starting lunchtime theatre this month with *At Home*, a one-act play by Mike Weller which was first staged in New York last year. *At Home*, a "gentle" comedy about a young married couple, opens on February 11.

Hazel O'Connor
Rainbow

Richard Williams

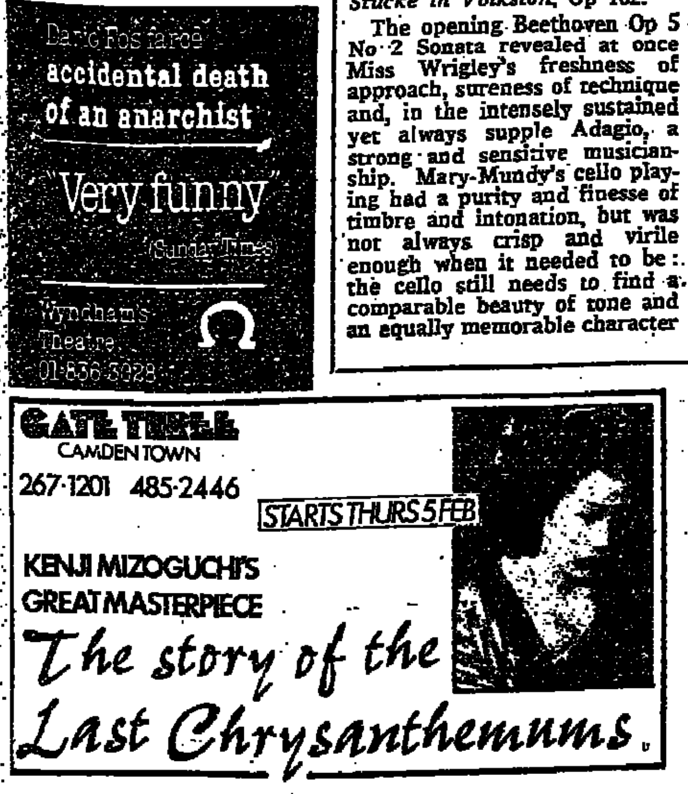
In 1967 Peter Watkins made a film called *Privilege*, in which he envisaged the state anaesthetizing restless youth through the manipulation of a pop star whose popularity was such that his concerts were events of mass worship, his image that of an icon. *Privilege* was universally derided as preposterous and uninformed, but Watkins's vision was more prescient than we knew: ever since David Bowie's *Ziggy Stardust* shows, which were intended to be ironic but were taken literally, too many pop shows have become cynical exercises in spectacle.

Of course, Watkins's nightmares were not entirely accurate. When, ten years later, Malcolm McLaren turned the Sex Pistols into the most potent British youth icons since the Beatles, he directed them against the state, with long-term consequences for attitudes to authority which have yet to become clear. But Watkins predicted the form and the feeling, and instead of Paul Jones he might well have cast Hazel O'Connor, had she been around.

Miss O'Connor played the punk princess in Brian Gibson's *Breaking Glass* last year, and the mode she chose for the film's music is now extended into her stage shows. Something of a desensitized Kate Bush, she evidently finds the pure punk style too restrictive for her theatrical needs, and looks back for her settings to earlier forms of rock.

She has a fashionaly harsh, vibrato-laden voice, and her songs are often about such topics as totalitarianism, militarism and the apocalypse, but her performance on Sunday night made me think of an amphetamined Buffy Sainte Marie fronting Roxy Music in a selection of Bowie's early hits. Despite the energy and the cold synthesizer textures, her five anonymous musicians played nothing that would have sounded adventurous in the pre-Rotten era.

Beneath it all Miss O'Connor seems amiable enough, with a premature trouper's air, and her weekend-punk audience adores her. I saw her chatting to Judith Chalmers and Jessie Matthews on television a few months ago; perhaps that was a truer suggestion of her future.



SPORT

Cricket

Chappell: skipper whose ship died of shame

From Dilip Rao
Sydney, Feb 2

There could not be a lonelier man in the cricket world today than Greg Chappell, Australia's captain, who yesterday took the unorthodox and unethical measure of having his younger brother, Trevor Chappell, deliver underarm the final ball of the third match in the best-of-five final against New Zealand in the Benson and Hedges World Series Cup one-day competition at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. He has been assailed by angry words from all directions, Ian Chappell, another brother, not excluded.

The tactic, which Chappell now regrets having employed, was designed to prevent Brian McKechnie, of New Zealand, hitting a six and levelling the scores. It succeeded and Australia advanced to a 2—1 lead in the series. The remaining legs will be played at the Sydney Cricket Ground tomorrow and on Wednesday, although an additional match may be played on Thursday if either is washed out or tied.

As is their practice in an emergency, the Australian Cricket Board "met" today by telephone hook-up and decided that if New Zealand agreed, the playing conditions of the competition would be amended "to prohibit the use of underarm bowling in the remaining matches". But they also decided that as no existing rule had been infringed, the Melbourne result must stand.

But Philip Ridings, chairman of the board, said after the meeting: "The board deplores Greg Chappell's action and has advised him of the board's strong feelings on this matter and of his responsibility as Australia's captain to uphold the spirit of the game at all times. "We acknowledge that his action was within the laws of the game, but that it was totally contrary to the spirit in which cricket has been, and should be, played".

Chappell, after being rebukde by the board, said: "While I took a decision which was within the rules, I recognize in the cool light of day that it conflicted with its spirit. I made my decision in the heat of the moment, when I was under pressure. But I regret it now. It is something I would not do again".

The board's censure would have hurt Chappell less than the outburst in *The Sun* this afternoon from Ian Chappell, never known to be a great upholder of cricketing traditions. Several former Australian captains waxed eloquent on the issue and not one of them with any sympathy or support for Greg.

Ian, forthright as ever, wrote: "Fair dinkum, Greg, how much pride do you sacrifice to win $35,000?" Another rebel of his time, Keith Miller, said: "Yesterday one-day cricket died and Greg Chappell should be buried with it."

This plea from Miller did not fall on deaf ears for, it is widely said here, some of the members who "attended" the telephonic board meeting wanted Chappell relieved of captaincy but were dissuaded by the prospects of a bitter feud over his succession.

Premiers react: The Prime Ministers of Australia, and New Zealand, Malcolm Fraser and Robert Muldoon, respectively, joined the fierce controversy over Greg Chappell's action. In Wellington, Mr Muldoon said the underarm delivery was an "act of cowardice" and it was appropriate that the Australian team were wearing yellow.

In Canberra, Mr Fraser said that he would not respond to Mr Muldoon's comment, but he said that Greg Chappell had made a serious mistake, contrary to the traditions of the game.

Chappell's action has engendered such hostility that the good cricketing relationship between Australia and New Zealand has probably been irreparably damaged and Chappell's own international reputation as a sportsman severely impaired.

The overall feeling of Australian and New Zealand supporters is perhaps best summed up by the reaction of Bob Vance, New Zealand Cricket Council chairman, who said that the underarm delivery was "the worst sporting action I have seen in my life. Victory at this cost was at the sacrifice of Australia's tremendously proud cricket heritage."

His sentiments were echoed by other former Australian captains. Sir Donald Bradman said: "I totally disapprove of what happened yesterday. Action should be taken immediately to ensure that it can never happen again on a cricket field. I can't remember seeing it happen in a first-class match before and I am very disappointed at Australia's win-at-all-costs attitude."

Richie Benaud, a former captain and now commentator, said: "Yesterday was a disgraceful happening and should never be permitted to occur again. It was one of the worst things I have seen on a cricket field."

Harold Larwood, the former England fast bowler and central figure in the "bodyline" bowling controversy in the 1930s, deplored the underarm play. Larwood, aged 77 and living in retirement in Sydney, said: "It was a bloody stupid thing to do and I hope it will never happen again."

Asked if he would have bowled underarm if he had been directed to by his captain, Douglas Jardine, Larwood said: "No, definitely not. No one in my time would have done anything like that." He said that he would have tried to make it impossible for the batsman to hit six by bowling directly at the wicket and keeping the ball well up to him.

"To hit a six, you've got to have the ball rising off the wicket. If the ball was bowled properly, he could only have closed his eyes and had a swipe. What happened was not cricket in my book."

A Sydney radio station said that several callers had urged that Australia's ambassador be recalled as an expression of national shame.

"Pressure match": Geoff Howarth, captain of New Zealand, expects a hard match when his team meet Australia tomorrow. "It will be a pressure game after yesterday's incident in Melbourne," he said.

"We just failed yesterday. It was a fantastic effort, and on a bad batting wicket despite the number of runs scored in the day. Either we'll salvage the series or lose it tomorrow, but Australia will know we are there."

Howarth said he wanted to forget the underarm incident and get on with attempting to win the series. He expressed concern about his team's fielding, which he said was not at all good in yesterday's game. "We are working on eliminating that fault tomorrow."

New Zealand could be forced to take the field without two key men who have back trouble: Jeremy Coney and Lance Cairns. "We can't name a squad until both have a god workout in the morning," Howarth said.

A win for Australia would give them a 3—1 lead and victory in the series; but one-day matches between the two countries on this New Zealand tour have been unpredictable. In earlier matches in the final series New Zealand won by 78 runs and Australia by seven wickets before yesterday's last-ball drama.—Agencies.



The last straw. Trevor Chappell (left) has bowled underarm. McKechnie throws his bat overarm in reply.

Scorecard

AUSTRALIA
A. R. Border, c Parker, b Hadlee .. 5
G. M. Wood, b McEwan .. 72
*G. S. Chappell, c Edgar, b Snedden .. 90
M. F. Kent, c Edgar, b Snedden 33
†R. W. Marsh, not out .. 18
K. D. Walters, not out .. 6
Extras (l-b 3, b 8) .. 11
Total (4 wkts 50 overs) .. 235

K. J. Hughes, T. M. Chappell, G. R. Beard, D. K. Lillee, M. H. N. Walker did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—8, 2—163, 3—199, 4—215.
BOWLING: Hadlee, 10—0—41—1; Snedden, 10—0—52—2; Cairns, 10—0—34—0; McKechnie, 10—0—54—0; McEwan, 7—1—31—1; Howarth, 3—0—12—0.

NEW ZEALAND
J. G. Wright, c Kent, b G. Chappell .. 42
B. A. Edgar, not out .. 102
*G. P. Howarth, c Marsh, b G. Chappell .. 18
B. L. Cairns, b Beard .. 12
M. G. Burgess, c T. Chappell, b G. Chappell .. 2
P. McEwan, c Wood, b Beard .. 11
J. M. Parker, c T. Chappell, b Lillee .. 24
R. J. Hadlee, l-b-w, b T. Chappell 4
†I. D. Smith, b T. Chappell .. 4
B. McKechnie, not out .. 0
Extras (l-b 10) .. 10
Total (8 wkts 50 overs) .. 229

M. C. Snedden did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—85, 2—117, 3—136, 4—139, 5—172, 6—221, 7—225, 8—229.
BOWLING: Lillee, 10—1—34—1; Walker, 10—0—35—0; Beard, 10—0—50—2; G. Chappell, 10—0—43—3; T. Chappell, 10—0—57—2.

Willey lays claim to place against a W Indies side without Richards

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
St Vincent, Feb 2

England won their second one-day match against the Windward Islands here today by six wickets, Boycott anchoring the innings with an unbeaten 85. He received welcome support from his fellow Yorkshireman, Stevenson.

The match, due to have been over 50 overs, was extended to 55 only when Willey had bowled five balls of an eleventh over when in a 50-over match his allowance was 10. With England in need of all the cricket they can get, the sun shining, the sea sparkling and the palms swaying in the breeze, an extra few minutes in the field was no hardship.

When the Windwards got to 90 for one after 35 overs, with Shillingford, who has made a Test hundred, and John going well, it looked as though England might have to make quite a few more than 183. But Gooch, with his disarming swing, took wickets where others had not, and the batsmen grew impatient. Willey's off breaks were harder to get away today than Emburey's and useful enough, I would imagine, to win him a place in Wednesday's one-day international ahead of Miller.

With a chance unlikely to be taken with Willis's knee, the XI for Wednesday may be Boycott, Gooch, Butcher, Gower, Gatting, Botham, Willey, Bairstow, Emburey, Old (or Stevenson) and Dilley. Old extracted enough bounce out of the pitch this morning to have encouraged the West Indian fast bowlers, had they been here to see it. After missing another stumping off one of the spinners—he allowed two to elude him at Pointe-à-Pierre—Bairstow made up for it later with a smart legside stumping off Gooch.

For Wednesday's game here, West Indies will be without their brightest star, Vivian Richards, who has sinus trouble, and also Gordon Greenidge, who is still in some pain from the back injury which caused his early return from the recent West Indian tour of Pakistan. The chance is being taken to blood Everton Mattis, the tall, straight-backed Jamaican who made 41 and 46 for the President's XI against England at Pointe-à-Pierre. At 23 Mattis is the youngest of the West Indian batsmen. He has two first-class hundreds to his credit in a career which began in 1977.

Without Richards there will be no pretence at West Indian spin. There will be the usual four fast bowlers—to be chosen from Croft, Garner, Holding, Marshall and Roberts—with Gomes likely to make the fifth bowler. It seems to me that Gomes is an underrated cricketer in West Indies and one who could well make a nuisance of himself to England on this tour.

After serving a brief suspension imposed by Barbados following a breach of discipline, David Murray (not to be mistaken for Deryck Murray, who had the job for so long) will keep wicket. He has been in his namesake's shadow for some time, having been in England as his number two as long ago as 1973. As a batsman he is good enough to have scored six first-class hundreds, including one of 206 for the West Indians against East Zone at Jamshedphur.

As Victor Richardson, grandfather of the Chappells and one of Australia's legendary sportsmen, turns in his Australian grave, there is news from here that Sylvester Clarke has been suspended for a mere 15 days for throwing a brick (which was being used as a boundary marker) into the crowd at Multan last month and seriously injuring a spectator. The range was short, the crowd massed and Clarke has a fierce arm. With West Indian fast bowlers so plentiful, his absence from the West Indian team is of no particular significance. Although Clarke played in all four Test matches in Pakistan and took more wickets than all the others except Croft, Roberts has returned since then—a giant refreshed.

WINDWARD ISLANDS
L. Sebastien, l-b-w, b Botham .. 2
L. John, l-b-w, b Gooch .. 58
*I. Shillingford, c Gooch, b Willey 31
M. Warner, c and b Gooch .. 3
C. Browne, b Old .. 20
H. Williams, st Bairstow, b Gooch 2
†I. Cadette, run out .. 10
S. Hinds, not out .. 18
W. Davis, l-b-w, b Old .. 0
K. Hobson, b Stevenson .. 4
J. Jack, run out .. 8
Extras (b 3, l-b 8, n-b 5) .. 16
Total (53.2 overs) .. 183

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—33, 2—90, 3—109, 4—116, 5—129, 6—151, 7—156, 8—157, 9—174, 10—183.
BOWLING: Old, 9—0—34—2; Botham, 7—1—21—1; Stevenson, 9.2—0—26—1; Willey, 11—1—23—1; Emburey, 11—0—41—0; Gooch, 6—1—23—3.

ENGLAND
G. Boycott, not out .. 85
G. A. Gooch, c sub, b Warner .. 50
B. C. Rose, b Jack .. 3
D. I. Gower, st Cadette, b Hobson 6
P. Willey, c sub b Hobson .. 11
G. B. Stevenson, not out .. 19
Extras (b 1, l-b 2, w 1, n-b 6) 10
Total (4 wkts, 52.5 overs) .. 184

R. O. Butcher, *I. T. Botham, †D. L. Bairstow, J. E. Emburey and C. M. Old did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1—89, 2—118, 3—132, 4—151.
BOWLING: Davis, 10—3—26—0; Jack, 9.5—3—26—1; Hobson, 11—1—46—2; Warner, 11—0—46—1; Hinds 11—0—30—0.
Umpires: M. Hippolyte and P. Alleyne.

Srinivasan guides Indians to victory

Geelong, Feb 2.—T. E. Srinivasan dominated an unbroken opening partnership which carried the Indian tourists to a 10-wicket victory over Victoria today. Victoria, 130 for three in their second innings overnight, slid to 231 all out, leaving India to get 101 to win. Srinivasan hit 69 not out and the captain, Sunil Gavaskar, 28 not out to score 102 for no wicket in 39.3 overs against an array of nine Victorian bowlers.

The Indian attack was cut down by injury, including the loss of Kapil Dev with a twisted ankle,

Scorecard

VICTORIA: First Innings, 367 for seven dec (J. Moss 135 not out).
Second Innings
J. Wiener, c Reddy, b Singh .. 3
G. Watts, c Reddy, b Binny .. 12
J. Moss, c Reddy, b Sharma .. 44
G. Yallop, c Gavaskar, b Azad .. 64
J. Scholes, c Gavaskar, b Chauhan 17
T. Laughlin, c Sub, b Chauhan .. 3
S. Graf, c Kirmani, b Azad .. 13
R. Bright, l-b-w, b Binny .. 12
*†R. Robinson, c Azad, b Binny 26
I. Callen, b Chauhan .. 21
J. Higgs, not out .. 5
Extras (w 1, l-b 4, b 1, n-b 5) 11
Total .. 231

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—7, 2—21, 3—132, 4—131, 5—134, 6—160, 7—168, 8—193, 9—210, 10—231.
BOWLING: Yograj Singh, 16—3—44—1; Binney, 22—3—50—3; Azad, 38—10—60—2; Chauhan, 29—4—51—3; Yashpal Sharma, 8—3—15—1.

INDIANS: First Innings, 398 for 9 dec (Yashpal Sharma 201 not out, C. P. Chauhan 63).
Second Innings
S. M. Gavaskar, not out .. 28
T. E. Srinivasan, not out .. 69
Extras (w 2, n-b 3) .. 5
Total (0 wkts) .. 102

C. P. Chauhan, *B. Reddy, Y. Sharma, K. Azad, D. B. Vengsarkar, R. Binny, K. Dev, Y. Singh, D. R. Doshi did not bat.
BOWLING: Callen, 4—0—14—0; Graf, 4—0—11—0; Laughlin, 2—0—16—0; Bright, 12—7—13—0; Wiener, 1—0—1—0; Higgs, 7—0—15—0; Robinson, 5—3—6—0; Scholes, 5—3—20—0; Watts, 1—1—0—0.

Football

Home tournament to stay but with different format

The four home football associations have all come out in favour of keeping the British championship although it is unlikely to last long in its present form. Ted Croker, the secretary of the Football Association, said after yesterday's meeting in Manchester: "The Home International tournament will certainly be staged next season, but the format after next year is unresolved."

The proposal for next season's championship is that one match—England against Northern Ireland—be played on February 23, two more at the end of April and the three remaining fixtures after the FA Cup final on May 22.

The Home International board secretary Trevor Morris, of the Welsh FA, said: "We have taken into account the sensible view that playing the British championship in the week before the World Cup finals or European Cup finals is not conductive to the preparation of players. There was no discussion about scrapping the championship, but we discussed the format of the fixtures and the Football League secretary Graham Kelly is perfectly in accord with our way of thinking.

"If we adhere to the international dates that we outlined then country will come before club for these matches. But I must stress that the programme we have drawn up is purely to accommodate season 1981-82."

The proposed date for Scotland's match with England is May 29, but Mr Croker said that this year's match at Wembley is "in jeopardy and this is one of the factors that will decide the future of the home tournament."

PROPOSED DATES: Feb 23: England v N Ireland. April 27: Wales v England. April 28: N Ireland v Scotland. May 24: Scotland v Wales. May 27: Wales v Ireland. May 29: Scotland v England.

It was confirmed yesterday that next season's Football League programme will kick off a fortnight later, on August 29, and stretch into mid-May. Mr Kelly said that clubs' wishes had been met after meeting representatives of the four home associations in Manchester. It means that next season's FA Cup final will take place on May 22.

League chairmen had pressed for a later start, at last October's seminar in Birmingham. "The demand has been growing over a number of years," Mr Kelly said. "Clubs felt they were missing out on potential customers because a lot of people are on holiday in August." Clubs from the third and fourth divisions will, in effect, be starting three weeks later than usual as the two-leg first round of the Football League Cup, which has been staged in the week prior to the first full league programme, will now be moved into the season. Consequently, the second round of the league cup will revert to a one-off match.

The new dates will not affect home countries who qualify for the 1982 World Cup finals scheduled for mid-June. The 1982-83 season will also begin later, on August 28 and finish on May 14. "It's a better pattern and it gives us a better close-season break", Mr Kelly added.

The next European championship is likely to be organized on the same lines as last year, when for the first time eight national teams were grouped in Italy for final play-offs, Reuter reports.

The country chosen to host the final stages of the competition in June 1984 will be announced in November or December.

Blyth Spartans face long Trophy journey

Blyth Spartans were faced with a 600-mile round trip to Dartford, as northern clubs saw their Wembley dreams fade in yesterday's third round FA Trophy draw in London. Blyth, of the Northern League, remembered for their run to the FA Cup fifth round three seasons ago, will view the trip to Kent as scant reward for their success over the three times finalists, Stafford Rangers, in the previous round.

Sharing their misery were Altrincham and Norwich Victoria, who must also travel south. Altrincham, who beat Leatherhead in the 1978 final, face the prospect of a tough tie at Weymouth. First, their Alliance League colleagues must dispose of Isthmian hopes, Leytonstone and Ilford in one of four second round replays. Northwich travel to Aylesbury—neither side have reached this stage before—who have already eliminated Enfield and Netherfield.

The Northern Premier League side, Mossley, will also have to make their way to the London area if Carshalton overcome the sole Cheshire county survivors, Bootle, at the second attempt. Apart from possibly Bootle, the only northern side favoured with a home draw are the Welsh club, Bangor City, who face Hitchin.

Sutton United, whose 5—1 win over Wycombe made them Saturday's top scorers, now play hosts to Bedford.

DRAW: Leytonstone and Ilford or Weymouth v Altrincham; Dagenham or Bishop's Stortford v Alvechurch; Sutton United v Bedford; Aylesbury v Northwich Victoria; Yeovil or Hastings v Worcester; Bootle or Carshalton v Mossley; Bangor City v Hitchin; Dartford v Blyth Spartans. Ties to be played on February 21.

Rodgers returns to hospital for third time

Spare a thought for Dave Rodgers, the Bristol City centre-half. He is in hospital for the third time this season after breaking his left leg in the derby with Bristol Rovers on Saturday.

He has already missed half of City's games as they fight to avoid relegation to the third division. First, he suffered a broken nose. Then, in the autumn, surgeons were forced to wire up his teeth after he suffered a double fracture of the jaw. He is not expected to play football again this season.

Aston Villa will be fighting this week to get their central defender, Ken McNaught, fit for their match with Everton at Goodison Park on Saturday. McNaught had 10 stitches inserted in a deep gash on the side of his left kneecap after Villa's 1—0 victory over Manchester City on Saturday.

The new Crystal Palace manager, Dario Gradi, will have to get to know some of his reserve players quickly as he prepares for the trip to Ipswich Town. Gradi has lost the services of his captain, Jim Cannon, and Tony Sealy, who were sent off at Middlesbrough. With Gerry Francis and Ian Walsh both unfit the resources of Selhurst Park are seriously depleted.

Swansea are set to sign a second Yugoslav international, Reycovic, who is captain of Sarajevo and has won eight international caps. He has been recommended by Swansea's Yugoslav midfield player, Hadziabdic, and the fee is expected to be £120,000.

Millwall are to sign Austin Hayes from Southampton for a small fee. Hayes, a striker who was born in London, is due at the Den today to talk terms

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.
SECOND DIVISION: Queens Park Rangers v Cardiff City.
THIRD DIVISION: Colchester v Exeter.
FOURTH DIVISION: Northampton v Wigan Athletic.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Redditch v Stourbridge. Southern division: Basingstoke v Fareham; Crawley v Aylesbury.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Wembley v St Albans.
OTHER MATCH: Slough Town v QPR XI.
HOCKEY: Women's territorial match: West v Midlands (at Newquay SC, 2.15).

Yesterday's results

MERIDA: Venezuela 1, USSR 1.
BUENOS AIRES: Deportivo Moron 1, E Germany 4.
FRIENDLY: West Bromwich Albion 4, Red Star Belgrade 2.
FA TROPHY: Second round replay: Bedford 1, Walthamstow Avenue 0.
BOGOTA: Colombia 1, Brazil 1.
LA PAZ: Bolivia 1, Bulgaria 3.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Under-19 competition, second round: Archbishop Tenison's 1, Cardinal Newman 2; Clapham College 2, Enfield GS 1; Palmers College 4, Simon Langton 3; Wymondham College 1, Luton VI Form College 4. Representative match: Kent County Schools FA 3, Inner London County Schools FA 4.

Tennis

Fibak has no answer to Tanner power

Philadelphia, Feb 1.—Roscoe Tanner, of the United States, defeated Wojtek Fibak, of Poland, 6—2, 7—6, 7—5 today to win the United States professional indoor championship. Tanner succeeded Jimmy Connors as the tournament champion and won $45,000. Connors, winner of the title for the last three years, was beaten by Fibak in the quarter-final round.

Fibak, under heavy pressure from Tanner's powerful service and penetrating volleys, made a comeback from 3—5 in the second set to reach 5—5, but Tanner stayed steady.

Tanner said that his groundstrokes were "better today and Fibak could not afford to stay back and trade deep shots with me." Marty Riessen and Sherwood Stewart, of the United States, won the doubles title, beating Brian Gottfried, of the United States and Raul Ramirez, of Mexico, 6—2, 6—2.

In Chicago Martina Navratilova gave a tennis lesson today to Hana Mandlikova, the Czechoslovak teenager who idolized her and copied her style. The top-seeded Miss Navratilova, aged 24, produced her best form to beat 19-year-old Miss Mandlikova, 6—4, 6—2, in 55 minutes to win the tournament for the fourth year in a row.

It was sweet revenge for Miss Navratilova because Miss Mandlikova, the No 2 seed, had knocked her out of last year's United States Open and won two of their three previous encounters. The two thrilled 9,000 spectators with scintillating tennis, reeling off spectacular winners in a match that was more like a men's final for the way they attacked each other with powerful services and volleys. The difference in the end was that Miss Mandlikova missed more winners.

Miss Mandlikova, who shot to fifth in the rankings last year, said she hurt her knee in the fourth game of the first set and this slowed her down. But she acknowledged the outstanding form of Miss Navratilova, Czechoslovakia's top player until she defected to the United States in 1975.

Miss Navratilova later teamed up with Pam Shriver, of the United States, to win the doubles 6—3, 6—4 against the unseeded American pair, Sharon Walsh and Barbara Potter.—Reuter.

Mottram back for cup tie with Czechs

Christopher Mottram, recovered from illness, is available for Britain's King's Cup team in the home leg of the play-off tie with Czechoslovakia, the holders, at Huddersfield, tomorrow. Mottram, the British No 1, had to withdraw from the United States indoor championships in Philadelphia last week and he returned home, instead of fulfilling another tournament commitment in America.

Mottram's presence and the recovery from a back injury of Britain's third-ranked player, Jonathan Smith, means that the team manager, Paul Hutchins, has his strongest team for the first time in the current series. John Feaver, who was the leading singles player last week when Britain lost 2—1 to the Soviet Union, has been left out. Richard Lewis and Andrew Jarrett complete the squad.

Czechoslovakia, who won the Davis Cup when they beat Italy in the final last December, have held the King's Cup for the past two years. But, like Britain, they have had a weakened team so far this year, with leading players, Ivan Lendl and Tomas Smid, playing in America.

For tomorrow's match, they will be led by another Davis Cup international, Pavel Slozil, and he will be joined by Stanislav Birner and Jaroslav Navratil. Both Britain and Czechoslovakia finished third in their respective groups and will be playing off for fifth and sixth places in the first division. The return leg is in Czechoslovakia on Saturday when Britain are expected to have the same team in action.

Ice skating

Championships enjoying the spice of uncertainty

From John Hennessy
Innsbruck, Feb 2

Rarely has an international figure-skating season opened with so many imponderables. Usually it is possible to point to at least a couple of winners of the European championships; only a fool would expect to get the results right here this week.

An upheaval in the Soviet Union has played havoc with the pairs, once the unchallengeable preserve of Irina Rodnina and whoever happened to be at her side. A spate of injuries in East Germany has removed not only the world champion from the women's competition but also two highly-ranked pairs, and the usual post-Olympic retirements have reduced the general level of the fields. The standard threatens to be low, then, but at least that adds the spice of uncertainty.

Britain's outstanding skaters, in the wake of Robin Cousins's withdrawal from the scene, are Jane Torvill and Christopher Dean (Nottingham) in the dance where, alas, the competition is strongest. The Soviet Union are represented by three couples, who include the Olympic champions, Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov, and former world champions Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkov.

The British couple have beaten the third Soviet couple several times and would hope to do so again. A bronze medal, therefore, seems their minimum ambition. But they have now given up their jobs to train full time and, by all accounts, are widely regarded as possible contenders for the title.

Their trainer, Betty Callaway, who guided Krisztina Regoeczy and Andras Sallay (Hungary) to the world championship last year, believes they have improved by something like 10 per cent, so far as it is possible to quantify so nebulous a characteristic. If the judges were to agree they are clearly in with a chance.

Certainly the judges may feel that the two top Russians have been around for some time and may be beyond their best. Miss Linichuk and her partner lost their world title last year to the Hungarian couple in March, a month after the Olympics, and it is four years since Miss Moiseyeva and her husband were world champions.

Britain's other main interest is the women's singles, where we have two young skaters each with a point to prove. The national champion, unexpectedly, is Karen Wood (Deeside), who has come a long way in one year and will wish to show that her victory at Richmond in November was no fluke. Deborah Cottrill (Solihull), for her part, will be anxious to prove, as she did last year, when she came to the Europeans in second place to Karena Richardson, that the British is not a reliable guide. The new system of establishing the result may also work to her advantage.

Both are 18 and both, so far as one can tell, on a rising tide. A bronze medal for Miss Cottrill is not altogether out of the question, but Miss Wood may find that she is too new a face to make too great an impression in this, her first international championship.

In the pairs the world champions, Marina Cherkasova and Sergei Shakhrai, qualified only in third place among the Russians, and the winners of last year's bronze, Marina Pestova and Stanislav Leonivich, failed even to make the team. The new champions of the Soviet Union, and therefore potential winners here, are Veronica Pershina and Marat Akbarov, only sixth last year.

The field has been reduced to a feeble total of six, including the rising young Britons, Robert Daw and Susan Garland. They may be out of a place but not, I think, out of place in this company, such is the improvement they have made in the last year or two.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Crans Montana	60	150	Good	Crust	Good	Fine	4
Slush on lower slopes							
Davos	90	200	Good	Varied	Good	Fair	0
Good skiing, snow expected							
Flaine	140	480	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	0
Lower south facing slopes icy							
Grindelwald	90	190	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Excellent skiing on all runs							
Kitzbühel	90	195	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Good skiing on piste							
Saas-Fee	15	65	Fair	Poor	Poor	Fine	0
Lower slopes worn							
St Moritz	35	70	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	-4
Some stones on lower slopes							
Sauze d'Oulx	15	20	Worn	Varied	Worn	Fine	3
Very worn everywhere							
St Anton	125	430	Good	Crust	Good	Fine	4
Excellent piste skiing							
Verbier	80	200	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	—
Not all lifts are open							
Wengen	90	190	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	1
Excellent skiing condition							
Wildschönau	130	250	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	0
Excellent piste skiing							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources.

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
ITALY					
Abetone	30	40	—	—	—
Bardonecchia	30	50	—	—	—
Bormio	30	90	—	—	—
Canazei	25	65	—	—	—
Claviere	60	50	—	—	—
Cortina	15	60	—	—	—
Livigno	65	110	—	—	—
Macugnaga	12	80	—	—	—
Madesimo	5	90	—	—	—
Madonna di C	15	50	—	—	—
Ortisei	25	105	—	—	—
San Martino	5	35	—	—	—
Selva	35	105	—	—	—
Sestriere	30	60	—	—	—
Vipiteno	10	40	—	—	—
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	180	180	Pwdr	—	-5
Braunwald	180	220	Pwdr	—	-2
Champery	40	150	Pwdr	—	-1
Chateau d'Oex	90	200	Pwdr	—	-10
Disentis	130	230	Pwdr	—	-2
Engelberg	130	250	Pwdr	—	-9
Gstaad	130	200	Pwdr	—	-10
Kandersteg	80	200	Pwdr	—	-6
Klosters	100	220	Pwdr	—	-8
Laax-Flims	110	280	Pwdr	—	-1
Lenk	100	200	Pwdr	—	-17
Lenzerheide	130	220	Wet	—	-7
Les Diablerets	100	180	Pwdr	—	-12
Leysin	100	200	Pwdr	—	-1
Pontresina	30	80	Pwdr	—	-11
St Cergue	120	180	Pwdr	—	-7
Savognin	40	100	Pwdr	—	-12
Unterwasser	120	180	Pwdr	—	-7
FRANCE					
Alpe d'Huez	140	280	—	—	—
Chamonix	95	700	—	—	—
La Clusaz	150	280	—	—	—
Le Corbier	130	250	—	—	—
Les Contamines	110	370	—	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	150	300	—	—	—
Les Gets	120	300	—	—	—
Les Menuires	100	180	—	—	—
Megève	110	120	—	—	—
Méribel	160	305	—	—	—
Montgenèvre	80	130	—	—	—
Pra-Loup	15	45	—	—	—
St Gervais	80	215	—	—	—
Superdévoluy	100	120	—	—	—
Val d'Isère	130	250	—	—	—
AUSTRIA					
Alpbach	70	210	—	—	-3
Axamer-Lizum	—	[illegible]	—	—	-1
Badgastein	80	230	—	—	-9
Berwang	113	210	—	—	-5
Brand	110	240	—	—	-5
Gargellen	[illegible]	287	—	—	-6
Hochsölden	60	190	—	—	-7
Igls	80	120	—	—	-8
Ischgl	130	260	—	—	-5
[illegible]	130	350	—	—	-5
Kaprun	—	380	—	—	-5
Lech	190	300	—	—	-10
Lermoos	100	220	—	—	-4
Lienz	15	75	—	—	-5
Mayrhofen	45	125	—	—	-3
Mitterndorf	100	320	—	—	-4
Obergurgl	140	280	—	—	-5
Obertauern	280	300	—	—	-6
Saalbach	120	230	—	—	-1
Schruns	100	150	—	—	-7
Serfaus	90	210	—	—	-8
Söll	150	220	—	—	-7
Zürs	230	350	—	—	-9

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: One main run complete, spring snow. Lower slopes little snow, spring snow. Vertical runs, 600ft. Access roads clear. Snow level, 2,700ft. Glenshee: Main runs little or no snow. Lower slopes, limited nursery areas, little snow. Vertical runs, 100ft. Access roads clear. Snow level, 2,500ft.

Snooker

Higgins finds the key to his old title

By Sydney Friskin

The triumph of Alex Higgins in the 7th Masters snooker tournament, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, was not out of turn. He was runner-up in 1979 and 1980 and when opportunity knocked again he had only to unlock the door to regain the title he had first won in 1978. He was undoubtedly the best on form among the 12 participants.

Yet it would not have been Higgins if he did not make the hearts of his supporters miss a beat. In the final against Terry Griffiths, his conqueror in last year's final, Higgins was forced to yield some of the rope in the tug of war and his lead of 8—3 was cut to 8—6.

With a brilliant break of 136—the highest in the tournament—Griffiths began a spirited revival and it was in a mood of cautious aggression that Higgins won the 15th frame to clinch the match.

The tournament sprang to vibrant life only from the semi-final round in which the remarkable recoveries of Higgins and Griffiths led to the downfall of Cliff Thorburn, the world champion, and John Spencer, respectively. Before this stage there was a dividing line between the adventurous and the largely over-cautious.

The emphasis on caution did on two occasions take a nine frame match beyond midnight and if the awkward positions was a plausible explanation, a more technical reason advanced was the effect of a fast running table, which made control of the cue ball difficult. A faster table probably suited the style of Higgins who said there was nothing wrong with it; Griffiths, while not condemning it, did say that he had trouble with the black spot. Whichever way one looks at it, the facts are that too many simple shots were missed and in the six days of play only three big breaks were made, 91 by Steve Davis, 102 by Thorburn and 136 by Griffiths.

One of the more pleasing aspects of the event was the re-emergence from relative obscurity of John Spencer as a contender for forthcoming events. In beating Dennis Taylor 5—2 he played the best snooker of the first round and the semi-final round he attributed such success to intense practice. The failure of the younger players, Steve Davis and Kirk Stevens was a disappointment as was the inability of Ray Reardon, six times world champion, to get into his game against Spencer.

Overall, the event was an outstanding success. The total attendance for six days was 18,722—a record for an international snooker tournament.

FINAL: A. Higgins (N Ireland) beat T. Griffiths (Wales), 9—6 (Higgins first): 117—10, 38—69, 84—64, 66—47, 97—38, 58—51, 20—62, 67—10, 77—37, 75—39, 113—6, 0—136, 31—77, 51—63, 85—48.

Rugby League

New charges of poaching of League men by Union

By Keith Macklin

The Rugby Union International Board are likely to be considerably embarrassed at their meeting next month by the latest allegations of poaching of French Rugby League internationals by French Rugby Union clubs.

David Oxley, secretary-general of the English Rugby League, who was in Narbonne at the weekend for the France-Wales match has made further charges of sharp practice and hypocrisy against the French Rugby Union.

He says that Union clubs have approached three internationals: Roosebrouck (loose forward), Gresseque (scrum half) and Ratier (centre). Approaches were recently made to Touchagues, the full back and leading scorer in French Rugby League last season.

Mr Oxley said he had spoken to Gresseque, who is a riot police officer, about an approach made to him to switch from League to Union. Gresseque is said to have told Mr Oxley: "It's difficult because they are offering me so much money. I am only a worker and I support my mother."

The reputation of French rugby has suffered from a recent *cause célèbre* involving a centre, who has switched allegiances. Mr Oxley alleges that the player received around £20,000 to move from Pia (RL) to Perpignan (RU).

The FRU federation, in an apparent attempt to refute or justify the assertions, have claimed that the League game in France is amateur and that its players are free agents. Mr Oxley categorically denies this, stating that in Saturday's international French players were on £100 a man for beating Wales and would have received £15 if they had lost. Club rates were about £40 and £10 respectively.

Mr Oxley said he would continue to keep the RFU informed of developments.

Twice broken: Clive Sullivan, the former Great Britain international, may be out of action for the rest of the season after breaking his left forearm in two places while playing for Oldham against Barrow.

Motor racing

British drivers demonstrate their endurance

Daytona Beach, Florida, Feb 2.—A turbo-charged Porsche 935, driven by Brian Redman of Britain and two Americans, Bobby Rahal and Bob Garretson, yesterday won the 24-hour Daytona car race at an average speed of 113.153 miles per hour. They covered 2,718.72 miles in 708 laps to win by the convincing margin of 13 laps and five seconds from Derek Bell (Britain) and Americans Bob Akin and Craig Siebert in another 935.

The winning trio took the lead on lap 181 with Redman at the wheel. Thirteen of the sophisticated 935s started the event and many were faster than the winning car but did not last to the finish. The American team of William Koll, Jeff Kline and Rob McFarline came third in a Porsche 911, an entry with far less power and speed than the turbo-charged cars. They finished 200 miles behind the winners. The turbo-charged Lancias were never a factor in the race, suffering electrical problems and running at reduced speeds.

RESULTS (US unless stated): 1, B. Redman (GB), R. Rahal, B. Garretson, Porsche 935; 2, D. Bell (GB), R. Akin, C. Siebert, Porsche 935; 3, W. Koll, J. Kline, R. McFarline, Porsche 911; 4, F. Carney, R. Davenport, R. Johnson, Datsun 280ZX; 5, G. Facetti, M. Finotto, E. Pirro (all Italy), Lancia Turbo; 6, H. Stuck (WG), A. Gebhardt, W. Brun (Switzerland), BMW M-1.—Reuter.

FISA sanctions 'open formula' race at Kyalami

Paris, Feb 2.—The International Auto Sports Federation (FISA) said today that it has sanctioned an "open formula" grand prix race for Saturday at the Kyalami circuit, Johannesburg. The FISA president, Jean-Marie Balestre, said a request had been received from the South African Automobile Association to run such a race and that FISA's executive committee had approved it and put it on the international calendar. As a result, Saturday's race will conform to FISA regulations but will not count for the 1981 world championship, which will start at the US Grand Prix (West) on March 15.

In Johannesburg, the world Formula One champion, Alan Jones (Australia), said the crisis in grand prix motor racing is strictly FISA's fault. The feud, he said at a news conference today, was nothing more than "international politics". The most widely publicized dispute between FISA and the Formula One Constructors' Association has been FISA's ban of 'skirts' on racing cars. Jones said that such a ban would make "the sport more dangerous". Leading works teams such as Renault, Talbot-Ligier and Ferrari will be absent from Kyalami because of the rift between the two bodies.—AP.

Basketball

A league meeting with cup-tie flavour

By Nicholas Harling

Victories at the weekend for Crystal Palace and Team Fiat emphasized the importance of their meeting on Thursday, which will effectively determine the outcome of the league championship. Rarely has any first division match generated as much excitement; for once a league fixture has assumed all the importance of a cup final, even though the title's destiny may not be known until Fiat have completed their programme on February 28.

The position on Thursday will be less complicated if Fiat preserve their undefeated record. If they do so, the Birmingham club, who inflicted Palace's only defeat in the first game between the clubs, by 95—94 in October, would then have to win only one of their three remaining games to finish top for the first time.

Palace, however, need not only victory but to win by more than four points, as the points aggregates between the clubs in their two games would be taken into account if they both end the season with only one defeat to their name. If Palace achieve that margin they would go into their final game on February 14, away to Talbot Guildford, knowing that another victory would give them their fifth title in six years.

Both clubs have met each other once this season, Palace having avenged that league reverse comprehensively, by 26 points in their cup semi-final round. On that night they were indebted to the exhilarating marksmanship of Jeremiah, who unfortunately will be an absentee on Thursday, having undergone an exploratory operation on his injured right knee yesterday.

Palace, however, are not dependent on one player scoring the bulk of their points. If ever one prolific scorer is out of form or injured, another invariably emerges as Byrd emphatically illustrated in Sunday's difficult visit to Sunderland. The diminutive American guard almost decided that, in the circumstances, it would be as well for him to take on the responsibility of shooting, in addition to bringing the ball down court and he scored 27 points.

Fiat, by comparison, had much less difficulty in their game the previous night, ending Blackpool's revival by the convincing score of 109—78. Martin, of Stockport Belgrade, enjoyed the distinction of being the weekend's outstanding marksman with 38 points, but still finished on the losing side. [illegible] having Pace (35) only marginally less lethal under the board and better support provided by Dassie (23).

Swimming

BERGEN: Youth international: 1, England 331 pts; 2, Denmark 169.

Basketball

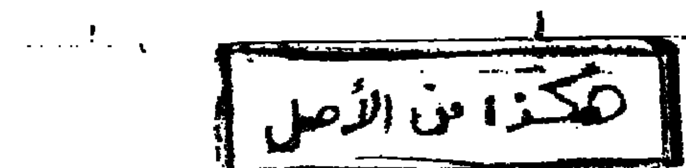
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: East 123, West 130.

Cresta run

BRABAZON TROPHY: First day (Swiss unless stated): [illegible]

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: [illegible]



Rugby Union

Smart's chance to plug the gap made by retirement of Cotton

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The vacancy in England's national squad left by Fran Cotton's retirement was made good yesterday with the news that Colin Smart, the Newport loose head prop, will be one of 30 players called for training at Stourbridge next Monday evening. The selectors have made two further changes compared with the squad which trained at Bisham Abbey before the game against Wales: Ripley (Rosslyn Park) and Allchurch (Cambridge University) are omitted. Hesford, the Bristol No. 8, who [illegible] an impressive game for Gloucestershire last Saturday and Jeavons, of Moseley, who can play at No. 8 or on a flank, are brought in at loose forward.

Smart, aged 30, won the first of his three caps when England [illegible] a heartening 7—6 victory over France at Twickenham in 1979. His next appearance brought less [illegible], England losing 3—27 to Wales in Cardiff. But his solid scrummaging earned him a tour in Fiji later that year when in [illegible] of injury problems, played both internationals. He did not, however, finish the match against [illegible].

His last game for England was against New Zealand at the [illegible] 1979. Cotton then playing in the tight head side. By the start of the 1980 championship, the arrival on the scene of Blakeway enabled the selectors to switch Cotton to his favourite loose head position, and Smart dropped out of the headlines. He might well be restored to them when on [illegible] England name their side [illegible] Scotland.

The 27-year-old Hesford is a former Wasps and England under-23 player who resumed his rugby career with Bristol after spending several years overseas. His father kept goal for Huddersfield Town in the FA Cup Final of 1938 against Preston North End; one of his brothers, Ian, keeps goal for Blackpool and another, Steve, is a prolific goalkicker for the Rugby League club, Warrington.

Jeavons, four years younger, is another who has progressed through the national under-23 team. He has all the physical attributes (6ft 4in, 16 stones) [illegible] an imposing turn of speed. [illegible] he was big enough in his younger days to play lock for the England 19 group schools side. One suspects that the arrival of Jeavons and Hesford in the squad may spell an end to the further aspirations of Ripley, whose zeal and enthusiasm have remained undiminished in spite of many disappointments.

The England stand-off, Horton may have to miss the Stourbridge training session because of more hamstring trouble. He tweaked it in Bath's game against Ebbw Vale last weekend, but it is not the one that frustrated him around the turn of the year.

I am obliged to M. D. Whitehorn, a Cambridge hockey Blue, shortly after the war, for reminding me of someone else who has achieved, in post-war years, the unusual double of Blues for hockey and rugby. W. Neil White (The Leys School) was stand-off half in the 1947 university match at Twickenham and, after playing in the same Cambridge hockey side as Whitehorn in 1948, went on to represent England and Great Britain at hockey. He was also a talented cricketer.

Halves face test: Wales have an injury doubt over their stand-off half, Gareth Davies, and half-back partner, Brynmor Williams. They will undergo a fitness test before the team fly to Scotland on Thursday. Davies played for Cardiff at Llanelli on Saturday, but took only a small part in Sunday's squad training because of a damaged knee. Williams, who is deputising for the injured Holmes, suffered a calf muscle strain in Swansea's game with Abertillery.

In the same match Wheel came off with a leg injury but fears over his fitness have been dispelled. The Pontypool prop, Staff Jones, was sent off for stamping on a Newbridge player on Saturday and has been dropped from the national squad. The Scottish flanker, Calder, who was unable to train last week because of a poisoned leg and missed Stewart's Melville's game on Saturday, took a full part in Sunday's training and should be fit.

ENGLAND PARTY: W. H. Hare (Leicester), W. M. H. Rose (Cambridge University), M. J. Carleton (Orrell), M. A. C. Slemen (Liverpool), [illegible] R. Dodge (Leicester), C. Woodward (Leicester), [illegible] N. J. Preedy [illegible] Horton (Coventry), [illegible] Youngs (Gloucester), [illegible] C. E. Smart (Newport), [illegible] Sargent [illegible] Wheeler (Leicester), [illegible] W. B. Beaumont [illegible] Colclough (Angoulême), S. Bainbridge (Gosforth), R. Field (Moseley), M. J. Rafter (Bristol), D. H. Cooke (Harlequins), P. Moss (Orrell), N. Jeavons (Moseley), J. P. Scott (Cardiff), R. Hesford (Bristol).



Smart: hoping to return to the limelight.

Boxing

Lawless to seek new promoter for Watt bout

Jim Watt's immediate future is unlikely to be affected by the disappearance of Harold Smith, the American promoter, and the money for Watt's forthcoming world lightweight title defence against Alexis Arguello, Terry Lawless, Watt's manager, said yesterday.

Watt, who was to have received a large but undisclosed sum for meeting Arguello in the United States—Lawless disputes the published figure of $1m—will still box him for another promoter's money.

"The only reason Watt is fighting Arguello is because it is a good fight, it is Harold Smith who has gone, not Arguello", Mr Lawless said. "There are still plenty of other promoters and if no one picks up the fight immediately it will go to purse offers. Then, if it still goes abroad Watt will receive 80 per cent of the bid, so the business of Harold Smith is not likely to have that much financial affect.

"Time is not important either. Watt has only just recovered from his appendix operation at Christmas and no date or venue had been set for the Arguello fight".

Whatever happens, those two will meet sometime, somewhere. This is a mandatory defence ordered in December by the World Boxing Council and the winner has to meet Sean O'Grady within 90 days.

John L. Gardner, the heavyweight, also under contract to Smith's organization, has more problems: He was waiting for Muhammad Ali to be granted a licence to box for the chance of picking up £150,000 for meeting him. That along with the possibility of a well-paid alternative seems to have gone with the promoter, and the money the FBI are now seeking.

Gardner's manager, Mickey Duff, who had also helped negotiate the Watt contract, left for the United States this morning on an undisclosed mission.

In Tokyo the South Korean challenger, Park Chan-Hee, said yesterday that he was confident of winning the WBC flyweight title from Japan's Shoji Oguma tonight. "I'm in the best of condition. I will go for a knock-out," the 23-year-old Park said before the bout. Park, an energetic and aggressive boxer, lost the title to Oguma on a ninth round knockout in Seoul last May.

Park's trainer, Kang Joon Ho, said that his boxer had been advised to press the bout from the start. "We will try not to let Oguma rest," Kang said.—Agencies.

A club five minutes from nowhere has put itself on the map

Guernsey boasts fresh pastures for squash

The joke about the King's Club at St Peter Port is that "it is 10 minutes from anywhere and five minutes from nowhere". Therein lies one reason why this remote six-court club, only eight years old, is among the most respected in British squash. It sprang from the initiative of a businessman, who became bored with a cushioned but premature retirement, and a badminton-playing mathematics teacher, who discovered that he had a natural affinity with the geometry of squash.

The only other courts in Guernsey are Elizabeth College's quaint original, built in 1946 with a sloping ceiling, and three more at a leisure centre opened in 1976. These 10 courts serve a population of about 50,000. But King's has produced three English internationals—John le Lievre, Martine le Moignan, runner-up for the British national championship, and Lisa Opie—and six English junior internationals, including le Lievre's younger brother, Richard.

The inspiration behind them, Reg Harbour, has studied the population figures and conversion ratios ("that's the maths teacher coming out") and concludes: "There is irrefutable evidence that you are more likely to get into the England team if you come from Guernsey than if you come from anywhere else".

Harbour dates Guernsey's advance from 1970-71, when two useful players, Max Trouteaud and Allister Carey, returned to their native Ireland from Zambia and England respectively and fostered competition (notably the annual "blood match" with Jersey, which has far more courts and players) in what had previously been merely a social squash environment. Guernsey, though, had only a dozen or so competitive players when King's first took shape in the minds of Richard Moore, from Bristol, and the Bolton-born Harbour.

Moore's family business was taken over and he retired to Guernsey in 1970 but soon became restive. He sometimes played squash and one day he read about the game's expansion and decided to build. He also decided that Harbour was the key to "selling" the game. Harbour had been Durham University's badminton captain (he coached too) at the same time as Malcolm Willstrop was squash captain. They were to become two of Britain's most unusual and successful squash coaches.

Harbour was frustrated in his hopes of a career in astronomy (his interest in the star system is now taking a different form). In 1968 he became mathematics master at Elizabeth College and John le Lievre was one of his pupils. "John was interested in squash and used to play a little. We started to play every Sunday night—and the thing developed from there. I'd been playing badminton for 10 years and was looking for something different to do." Harbour became the College's squash master.

From these diverse scraps of kindling a flame was ignited on the site of what may be the world's second oldest tennis club. The 99-year lease granted in 1862 was allowed to lapse and the place was taken over by cows and brambles. Moore bought it and Harbour became involved with the planning and promotion. The club opened in January 1973 and six months later Harbour moved to King's full-time: as joint owner ("Richard has most of the equity"), joint manager and coach.

"That Christmas John, who had been a good pupil at maths and squash, went to England for the first time. We had no idea whether he would get hammered off the court". They need not have worried. Le Lievre now ranks 26th in the world, with only four Englishmen ranked above him. Via Loughborough College he acquired his present base at Nottingham, which became a Guernsey squash colony when he was joined by Richard and Miss le Moignan and Miss Opie. On February 1 John became tournament professional to the Nottingham club.

"Reg took up the game at the same time as I did", le Lievre says. "He was working it out while I was learning. With little knowledge of squash, he had an incredible insight into how it should be played. Now I feed information back, video tapes and so on, about what I have learned about the game at the top. We analyse it together—he's very good at that—and he devises practice routines to work on certain areas".

Harbour's methods developed before he had any contact with mainland coaching. "I coach tactical squash rather than technichal squash. I try to make my youngsters use their brains instead of just hitting and running. I transfer my mathematical abilities into geometry on the court. Squash is very much a geometric game and I teach them how to force opponents to play a certain shot: something like chess. My players seem to read the game well. They know where their opponents are going to hit the ball".

A striking feature of Harbour's methods is the use of fast squash balls, as distinct from the slow "yellow dot" ball used by leading players. "We specify which ball should be used—white, red, and blue, as well as yellow, in our club leagues. They're forced to play with the ball I tell them to play with and I insist that the kids practice with a ball at least one speed faster than they normally use. It helps to develop ball control and geometric skills. Pakistanis are good because they come from a place where the ball is lively. British squash is a disaster—so is Jersey squash—because they only believe in one ball, the yellow dot."



John le Lievre: applying geometry on court.

Another key figure at King's is a North Londoner, Robert (inevitably "Robbie") Burns, a brisk and wiry former P.E. teacher with an infectious zest for the concept of fitness through sport and an affable eagerness to help players fulfill their potential. He organizes the children "from the age of seven upwards, until they don't need me anymore" (there is a graded award scheme for the progressive acquisition of skills) and even adapts rackets with broken shafts so that they can be used by tots too small to play with a full-sized racket.

Guernsey has no big spectator sport so people tend to play games instead of watching. Harbour suggests four other reasons for the island's disproportionate success. "One, there's only one club so there are no rival factions pulling people different ways. Two, therefore it is easy to have a 'Mr Squash'. If anybody wants anything here, they ring me. Three, youngsters are involved because there are fewer distractions for children over here, fewer places to go. And children are allowed into licensed premises. So we're selling squash as a family game and have created a family environment. Four, the Guernseyman has something to prove to the world. It's not just Guernsey and it's not just squash—an island environment seems to produce outstanding leaders."

To help their own players, it has always been part of King's policy to run package tours and tournaments to attract outsiders. Steven Bowditch, who comes from Darwin ("a lot more isolated than this"), played in last weekend's professional tournament. He made a point none of his hosts would quarrel with when he said: "The junior standard here is very good. But they may have to leave the island in order to kick on." That leads to two problems—the loss of Harbour's full-time coaching and the onset of what is known as "the Guernsey lethargy". A player reaches the top in Guernsey, has trouble adjusting to the challenges of the mainland, and tends to return to an island that inspires an affectionate loyalty and a sense of security. Apart from anything else, it must be confusing to live in a land without yellow telephone kiosks

Rex Bellamy

Golf

Watson shares lead after late flourish

Pebble Beach, Feb 1.—Tom Watson, making his first appearance of the year, birdied the final hole here today to join Brad Bryant in the second-round lead of the 54-hole Bing Crosby National Pro-am tournament. Watson and Bryant finished on 136, eight-under-par. Jerry Pate, Ben Crenshaw and John Cook were on 137, followed by Bobby Clampett and Greg Powers on 138. Jack Nicklaus, with a four-under-par 68 today, was a further stroke back with four others on 139.

Bryant ended his round with birdies on each of the last three holes for a five-under-par 67. It was nearly two hours later when Watson sank a 25ft putt on the 18th for his 69. Due to heavy rain last Thursday and Friday, the tournament did not begin until Saturday and was cut down one round to 54 holes.

LEADING SCORES: 136: T. Watson, 67, 69; B. Bryant, 69, 67; 137: J. Pate, 69, 68; B. Crenshaw, 67, 70; J. Cook, 66, 71; 138: R. Clampett, 67, 71; G. Powers, 67, 71; 139: J. Nicklaus, 71, 68; H. Irwin, 70, 69; [illegible] Bean, 70, 69; L. Nelson, 70, 69; B. [illegible]eckel, 71, 68; 140: J. Colbert, 72, [illegible]; H. Green, 72, 68; D. Edwards, [illegible], 70. British scores: 146: N. Faldo, [illegible], 72; 149: S. Lyle, 77, 72.—Reuter.

Miss Palmer on tenterhooks until the finish

Deerfield Beach, Florida, Feb 1.—Sandra Palmer scored her first Ladies Professional Golfers' Association (LPGA) tour victory since 1977 with a two-stroke win over her fellow-American Amy Alcott in a $100,000 event today.

Miss Palmer, a 17-year veteran from Florida, led by seven strokes after 63 holes, but had two bogeys and a double bogey on the back nine for a final-round two-over-par 75. She finished with a total of eight-under-par 284 on the Deer Creek Country Club course.

Miss Alcott carded a final-round three-under-par 70, the day's best, but missed a 35-foot eagle putt on the 18th green which would have brought her level with Miss Palmer.

FINAL SCORES (American unless stated): 284: S. Palmer, 66, 69, 74, 75. 286: A. Alcott, 73, 72, 71, 70. 287: J. Coles, 68, 70, 75, 74; P. Hayes, 73, 70, 72, 72; B. Lauer, 71, 73, 71, 72; K. Whitworth, 69, 75, 71, 72. 288: C. Chillemi, 74, 72, 70, 72; [illegible] Stacy, 71, 69, 73, 75. 289: N. Lees-Melton, 74, 73, 71, 71; M. Hanse, 72, 74, 73, 71; J. Stanger, 74, 7[illegible], 71, 72; J. Carner, 67, 72, 76, 7[illegible]; V. Brownlee, 73, 71, 71, 74. 290: [illegible] Little (South Africa), 72, 75, 70, 7[illegible]; S. Bertolaccini (Argentina), 72, 7[illegible], 71, 77. 291: J. Stephenson (Australia), 75, 74, 71, 71. 292: A. Okamoto (Japan), 74, 68, 75, 75. 294: B Mizrahie (Indonesia), 74, 74, 71, 75. 298: P. Pulz (Australia), 73, 76, 7[illegible], 79. 302

McEvoy stands alone at head of the list

Peter McEvoy, twice winner of the British amateur championship, is again rated as the top amateur golfer in England. He is the only player given a plus two handicap by the English Golf Union for the new season.

McEvoy, aged 27, a trainee solicitor from Birmingham, who was joint winner of the Brabazon Trophy last year as well as runner-up for the English amateur title, is one of only six golfers to earn a plus rating. The five on plus one are Gordon Brand (Knowle), Roger Chapman (Langley Park), the English champion, Peter Deeble (Alnmouth), Paul Downes (Coventry) and Mike Kelley (Scarborough North Cliff).

There are again well over 100 players of scratch or better in England this year but the number is likely to be considerably reduced in 1982.

Ian Erskine, the EGU secretary, said: "The number of players on scratch or better has increased dramatically in the past five years but there are many of them who cannot play to this handicap consistently. The EGU are bringing in measures which will make it far harder for players to retain these handicaps."

Book review

The England cricket captain who never was

By Alan Gibson

Very few sportsmen of any kind deserve a full-length biography. A long essay is usually the right mark: Bernard Darwin, on W. G. Grace or James Braid, provides models. Biographies of cricketers are particularly tricky, because of the modern passion for statistics. My colleague, Richard Streeton's, book, *P. G. H. Fender: A Biography* (Faber, £5.95), is perhaps 20 pages too long.

He declares, early on, that "There is no intention to take the reader through Fender's career, match by match": but this laudable ambition sometimes slips. When we find him, later, saying: "There is no need to delve deeply into the events of the next three weeks", and then devoting the next thousand words to them, we recognize the danger signals. But this is the only serious criticism I have to make of an admirable book.

Mr Streeton has had two great advantages. One is that Fender was such an interesting man. The second is that Fender is still cheerfully alive, at 88, and collaborated fully in the book. But the second has a corresponding disadvantage: for writing the biography of a living man, especially if the man has cooperated so heartily, and even more if he was a controversial figure—as Fender was—is a delicate task.

I suppose, in the 1980s, I must remind people of who Fender was. He played, principally for Surrey and England, from 1910 to 1936. He score more than 19,000 runs, average nearly 27. He took nearly 1,900 wickets, average 25. This his batting average was higher than his bowling, always a good clue if you are assessing a true all-rounder. He played in 13 Test matches, five of them against Australia. His Australian matches were in the harrowing years of 1920 and 1921. His batting average in Tests was 19, and he took 29 wickets at 41. Even given the strength of the opposition which he usually had to face, these are not impressive figures.

Mr Streeton heads his first chapter "The Captain England Rejected", and deplores that Fender was passed over for the England captaincy, in turn, by Douglas, Gilligan and Chapman. It was not, he explains convincingly, because he was thought to be Jewish, nor even that he was not a university man. He was not on easy terms with what was later called the Establishment. I expect they were never very anxious to pick him as captain or even an ordinary member of the side. But they always had a good excuse in those inadequate Test figures.

It is as a captain that "Percy George", as he was customarily known, is principally remembered. He was up to all the tricks: taking a stern legalistic attitude when it suited him, persuading the other captain to bend the rules a little when *that* suited him. He was captain of Surrey from 1920 to 1931. Surrey had a strong batting side, and beautiful wickets to bat on at the Oval, but were short of bowlers. That he contrived to keep them well up the championship, and finish so many matches (like Stuart Surridge, he disliked drawn games) was a source of wonder to his contemporaries. Herbert Sutcliffe, in his autobiography (which he wrote himself), after a thoughtful chapter on captaincy, concluded:

"No other man could have done with the Surrey attack what he did season after season. I could never understand why, in his most successful years, he was not England's captain; and I say, after paying due respect to D. R. Jardine's skill and knowledge, that Fender is the best cricket captain I have known."

Squash rackets

A latecomer stays to the bitter end

Bruce Brownlee, of New Zealand, came from behind to beat Gawain Briars, the British No 1, in the final of the tenth invitation tournament in Plymouth, sponsored by Michael Spiers, late on Sunday night.

Brownlee was a late replacement for Philip Kenyon, the holder, who had to withdraw because of a blood disorder. He saved six match points in winning 4—9, 9—2, 2—9, 10—8, 10—9, in an hour and 25 minutes. Briars showed no after-effects from his defeat by Ross Norman last week in the final of the British under-23 championships.

Briars had three match points in the fourth game and then in the fifth led 8—6. But Brownlee saved those two and another at 9—9 before he settled the final on his second match ball.

PLYMOUTH: Invitation tournament: Semi-final round: B. Brownlee (NZ) beat A. Naylor, 9—5, 9—4, [illegible]; G. Briars beat A. Dwyer, 9—6, 10—[illegible], 9—6. Final: Brownlee beat Briars, 4—9, 9—2, 2—9, 10—8, 10—9.

Fencing

LONDON: Leon Paul foil competition, final: T. Okazaki (Japan) beat P. Harper (GB).

Bloodstock sales

El Gallo mare goes for 28,000 gns

John de Burgh, of the Oldtown Stud, at nearby Naas, went to 28,000 guineas to secure Becassine, a 12-year-old mare at Goffs February mixed sales in Kildare yesterday. The under bidder, phoning from Spain, was Tim Vigors. Bidding on behalf of unnamed "foreign interests" Mr De Burgh said that the El Gallo mare, believed to be in foal to the Gimcrack Stakes winner, Stanford, would remain in Ireland.

The mare was sent up by James Connolly of Co. Waterford and has bred two good winners, Phil's Fancy and Entre Fancy. She is related to the Observer Gold Cup winner, Pretendre, and the Vaux Gold Tankard winner, Red Dragon.

Sammy Shields, a trainer-jockey, went to 11,000 guineas for King's Chorus, a six-year-old by Prince Tenderfoot from Pagan Chorus sent up by Liam Spring, a patron of a local trainer, Pat Moore. King's Chorus has won four times on the Flat and over hurdles and has been placed 19 times.

Phil Solomon, an impresario, paid 9,400 guineas for eldom, a five-year-old mare by Rarity and covered by Tarboosh.

Racing

Sedgefield programme

[12].45 CROFT HURDLE (Selling handicap: [£]357: 2m)

1100 Twinacre (D), A. Smith, 5-11-3 ...... —
p013 Pretty Boy Floyd (C), G. Lockerbie, 8-0-[illegible] Striger 7
30-04 Caleta Prince (C), R. Fisher, 13-10-7 Caldwell 7
0030 Flautist (CD), G. Harman, 9-10-6 Harman 7
00p0 Gingers Wood, J. Harris, 6-10-6 .... Harris 7
012p Rebecca Maid (D), D. Yeoman, 6-10-0 —
[illegible]-2 Pretty Boy Floyd, 11-4 Caleta Prince, 4-1 Flautist, [illegible] Rebecca Maid, 7-1 Twinacre, 10-1 Gingers Wood.

[1.1]5 PETERLEE HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £345: 2½m)

100 Coral John (C), W. A. Stephenson, 5-12-2 Mr Fowler 4
0010 Sanskritik, Miss C. Saville-Deane, 5-12-2 P. Charlton
0:03 Baragoin, J. Calvert, 6-11-6 .... Grant
0204 Cuenca, R. Woodhouse, 6-11-6 .... A. Brown
2330 Emerald Emperor, M. Naughton, 7-11-6 Bradley 7
-0000 Grayhouse Angus, C. Bravery, 6-11-6 Brownless
0000 It's A Celtic (B), B. Wilkinson, 5-11-6 S. Charlton
Loch Spartan, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-6 Lamb
be Northside, R. Johnson, 5-11-6 .. Wilkinson 4
2-000 Rejuvenator, T. Barron, 5-11-6 Mr Metcalfe 4
0- Rich Discovery, E. Hoseltine, 5-11-6 Mr Kinsella
Robor, J. Hall, 5-11-6 ....
[illegible]-2 Baragoin, 4-1 Coral John, 9-2 Emerald Emperor, [illegible] Sanskritik, 7-1 Northside, 8-1 Cuenca, 10-1 Rejuvenator, [illegible] others.

[1.4]5 KIRK MERRINGTON CHASE (Handicap: £995: 3m 600yd)

-0201 Golden Jest (C), W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-12 Mr McIntyre [illegible]
403f Solo Sam (C), R. Brewis, 9-11-9 .. Pimlott
2f1p Master Brutus (CD), Miss C. Mason, 9-11-9 Mr Fowler [illegible]
3300 Phone Boy (CD), R. Robinson, 11-10-12 M. Pepper 7
-4400 Prince Token, J. Gill, 10-10-9 .... Mr Gill [illegible]
/100 Merry Crown, D. Garraton, 12-10-7 P. Charlton
0p00 Coolamurry, R. Fisher, 9-10-3 .... Brownless
11-03 Fittarmere (C), R. Peacock, 10-10-4 S. O'Neill
[illegible]-4 Golden Jest, 7-2 Solo Sam, 9-2 Master Brutus, 5-1 [Fitta]rmere, 7-1 Phone Boy, 10-1 Prince Token, 20-1 others.

[2.1]5 MAINSFORTH CHASE (Handicap: £827: 2½m)

3-232 Kenlis (D), M. Dickinson, 10-12-7 .. Carmody
2311 Impus (CD), R. Robinson, 8-12-1 P. Pepper 7
p0-43 High Down Hill, R. Fisher, 7-10-10 Brownless
0202 Ingham (CD), S. Nesbitt, 9-10-6 .. Nesbitt 4
7 300p Carnival Day (C), T. Fairhurst, 10-10-4 Lamb
8 3410 Easby Gold, G. Lockerbie, 6-10-0 .. Hawkins
9 f023 Captain Parkhill, B. McLean, 8-10-0 S. Charlton
10 -0210 Quay's Luck, Denys Smith, 5-10-0 .... Grant
11 0-p0p Swanky Guide, E. Caine, 13-10-0 .... —
3-1 Kenlis, 5-2 Impus, 6-1 Ingham, 6-1 Captain Parkhill, 8-1 High Down Hill, 10-1 Easby Gold, 20-1 others.

2.45 HETTON CHASE (Div I: Novices: £766: 2m)

2 4010 Meldrette (D), L. Griffiths, 10-11-10 .. —
4 f4uf Automation, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-0 Mr McIntyre 4
5 -0000 Billy Rajan, C. Lamb, 7-11-0 .... Lamb
8 p-bpp Dainty Two-Step (B), B. McLean, 6-11-0 Stringer 7
9 0100 Donquetzal (D), H. Walby, 9-11-0 Isherwood 7
14 0ff0 Imp (B), R. Robinson, 6-11-0 .. M. Pepper 7
15 000p Kildale, F. Watson, 8-11-0 ...... Mr Watson
19 00b0 Mullenan, T. Barron, 6-11-0 .... S. Charlton
21 -2330 Princess Token, J. Gill, 9-11-0 .... Mr Gill 4
23 Seta Pike, Miss C. Mason, 12-11-0 .. Earnshaw
26 u Vimark, J. Charlton, 10-11-0 .... Mr Kinsella
28 0043 New House Estate, T. Fairhurst, 5-10-7 Fairhurst
5-1 New House Estate, 4-1 Mildrette, 5-1 Princess Token, 11-2 Billy Rajan, 6-1 Automaton, 7-1 Seta Pike, 12-1 Donquetzal, 25-1 others.

3.15 HETTON CHASE (Div II: Novices: £766: 2m)

5 000 Ardentino, A. Watson, 8-11-0 .. McLaughlin 4
6 00-p Carumba, Mrs L. Brown, 6-11-0 .... Pimlott
11 fp0 Gun Point, Denys Smith, 6-11-0 ...... Grant
16 0002 King Tud, K. Chamberlain, 7-11-0 S. Charlton
17 03fu Lucky Row, W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-0 Mr McIntyre 4
18 0102 Miss Wood, R. Robinson, 6-11-0 M. Pepper 7
20 000p Powers, F. Taylor, 8-11-0 .... Allen
22 -pa0f Running Blind, A. MacTaggart, 8-11-0 .. Barry
24 0p0-4 St George's Day, R. McLean, 6-11-0 .... Lamb
25 40-u0 Totley Hall, R. Woodhouse, 7-11-0 .. Miller 4
27 3433 Viscount, V. Thompson, 7-11-0 .. Mr Walton
5-2 Miss Wood, 7-2 Viscount, 9-2 King Tud, 6-1 Lucky Row, 8-1 St George's Day, 10-1 Gun Point, 14-1 Totley Hall, 20-1 others.

3.45 PETERLEE HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £345: 2½m)

1 00f Angostura, R. Fisher, 5-11-6 ...... Goulding
2 0 Armenos, R. Johnson, 5-11-6 ... Wilkinson 4
3 0000 Bush Lady, C. Lamb, 6-11-6 .... T. Davies 7
4 0 Dom Perignon, M. Dickinson, 6-11-6 Carmody
5 /p0-0 Gibbsneese, N. Chamberlain, 8-11-6 S. Charlton
7 00 Keep Trying, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-6 Lamb
8 0040 Laganes, M. Naughton, 6-11-6 .... Grant
10 0-0pf Sir Owen, R. E. Peacock, 9-11-6 .. S. O'Neill
12 000r Three Bars, J. Harris, 6-11-6 .... Bradley 7
14 0040 Wilton Beacon, J. Harris, 5-11-6 .... Harris 7
15 00 Can't Catch Me, Mrs S. Ward, 4-10-7 .. Allen
16 u00 'C' Top, J. Mason, 4-10-7 ...... Dutton 7
17 0322 Dorothy Kate (B), S. Norton, 4-10-7 Pimlott
15-8 Dorothy Kate, 3-1 Angostura, 9-2 Dom Perignon, 7-1 Armenos, 8-1 Keep Trying, 10-1 Leganes, 16-1 others.

Sailor's Return books his ticket for Cheltenham

By Michael Seely

John Thorne will have to put up a considerable amount of overweight if he takes the mount on Spartan Missile, his leading Grand National candidate, in the Lancashire Hunters Steeplechase at Haydock tomorrow. Riding General Dew in the first division of the Leicestershire Maiden Hunters Steeplechase yesterday, Thorne weighed out at 12st 11lb, carrying 4lb more than the 12st 7lb the horse was set to carry. Spartan Missile has 11st 10lb to carry on the Lancashire course.

The Warwickshire farmer said afterwards: "Nick Henderson is still not keen for my daughter, Diana, to ride, so I will probably be on board myself. I should be able to shed quite a few pounds in the next couple of days." General Dew finished third behind the comfortable winner, Gypsy Inn, who is now bound for the Christie Foxhunters Challenge Cup at Cheltenham.

Also on target for the National Hunt Festival is Sailor's Return. Starting at 14-1, David Nicholson's five-year-old just got the better of an exciting battle with Gowanloch and High Old Time in the Golden Miller Hurdle after the 7-4 favourite, Mountain Man, had dropped back beaten early in the straight.

"That was not a bad performance by a horse who is sired by Harwell out of a mare by French Beige", Nicholson said. "Sailor's Return has now earned himself the right to run in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham." To be fair to the beaten horses, the going was extremely sticky, thereby placing a premium on stamina rather than on speed.

The going also told against Lord Gulliver, who started favourite at 6-5 to give a repeat performance of his recent Nottingham victory in the Trial Handicap Steeplechase. Lord Gulliver looked dangerous turning for home, but the closing stages were dominated by China Cottage and Laaken. Tommy Carmody drove China Cottage past Laaken in the last 100 years to win by two lengths.

Carmody completed a double and rode his 50th winner of the season when the Britisher took advantage of the falls at the last flight of Summary and Fearless Seal to beat Firm Foundations in the second division of the Somerby Novices' Hurdle.

The other feature of the afternoon was a double by Bob and Andy Turnell and their owner, Mr Jim Joel. Andy Turnell rode Hills Northern to a decisive win in the first division of the novices' event, and followed up this success by driving Persian Crown to a short-heard win over Glenhawk in the Uppingham Steeplechase.

[Le]icester results

[1.0] (1.1) LEICESTERSHIRE CHASE ([Div] I: Maiden hunters: £553: 3m).
[GYPS]Y INN, b g, by Romany Air—[illegible]urage (Mrs J. Gill) 10-12-0 Mr R. Stuart Hunt (9-1) 1
[illegible]ame .... Mr C. Saunders (5-1) 2
[Gene]ral Dew .. Mr M. Thorne (5-1) 3
[TO]TE: Win, £1.07; places, 97p, 25p, [illegible]. Dual F: £9.45. CSF: £5.33. Mrs [illegible]ll, Stroud. 4l, 4l. Alsirat (9-2) 4th. 18 ran. Russell Lunt did not [run].

[1.30] (1.31) SOMERBY HURDLE (Div [I: 4-y]-o novices, £690: 2m).
[HILL]S NORTHERN, ch c, by North[fiel]ds—Sovereign Court (H. Joel) 11-0 A. Turnell (9-4 fav) 1
[illegible]idge .... P. Blacker (33-1) 2
[illegible] Way .... T. Carmody (13-2) 3
[TO]TE: Win, 35p; places, 20p, 94p, [illegible]. Dual F: £5.29. CSF: £7.46. A. [Turne]ll, Marlborough. 5l, 1½l. Mr Premi[illegible] Wear (6-1), 4th. 15 ran. Wine [illegible] did not run.

[2.0] (2.1) GOLDEN MILLER HURDLE ([illegible]rn: £2,352: 3m).
[SAIL]ORS RETURN, b g, by Harwell—[illegible]usiana (Mrs Stainton) 5-11-8 P. Scudamore (14-1) 1
[Gowan]loch .. Mr T. Easterby (8-1) 2
[High] Old Time .. P. Blacker (7-2) 3
[TO]TE: Win, £1.05; places, £1.42, [illegible]. Dual F: £1.77. CSF: £11.32. D. [Nichol]son, Stow-on-Wold. ¾l, 1½l. [Moun]tain Man (7-4 fav), Wadi All [illegible] 4th. 6 ran.

2.30 (2.32) TRIAL CHASE (Handicap: £2,548: 3m)
CHINA COTTAGE, b g, by Chinatown—Grindles Cottage (B. Popplatt), 8-10-6 bl T. Carmody (4-1) 1
Laaken .... B. R. Davies (10-1) 2
Lord Gulliver P. Blacker (6-5 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 51p; Dual F: £1.92. CSF: £4.18. P. Bailey, Wantage. 2l, 1½l. Lochage (12-1), 4th. 5 ran.

3.0 (3.4) UPPINGHAM CHASE (£1,251: 2m)
Persian Crown, b g, by Tal Dowan—Tirana (H. Joel), 7-11-0 bl A. Turnell (11-2) 1
Glenhawk .... C. Gwilliam (5-1) 2
Staccato .... B. R. Davies (11-4) 3
TOTE: Win, 48p; places, 30p, 20p; Dual F: £1.75. CSF: £3.2[illegible]. A. Turnell, Marlborough. Sh. hd, 12l. Major Thompson (7-4 fav). Cany's Courtier (28-1), 4th. 7 ran.

3.30 (3.33) LEICESTERSHIRE CHASE (Div II: Maiden hunters: £553: 3m)
LORD DAWSON, ch g, by Romany Air—Nancy Dawson (D. White), 7-12-0 Mrs R. White (11-8 fav) 1
Hunters Guide Mr D. Cantullen (20-1) 2
Thorpe Lane Mr M. Arthurs (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 25p; places, 13p, 29p, 57p; Dual F: £2.89. CSF: £5.57. D. White, Swindon. 5l, 5l. Jimmyfisher (20-1), 4th. 17 ran. Scaggan did not run.

4.0 (4.3) SOMERBY HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £690: 2m)
THE BRITISHER, b c, by English Prince—Obelisk (Mrs M. Jarvis), 11-0 ...... T. Carmody (9-2) 1
Firm Foundations T. Bulgin (9-1) 2
Low Quay P. Scudamore (11-4 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 62p; places, 30p, 21p, 13p; Dual F: £2.22. CSF: £4.49. A. Jarvis, Royston. 1½l, ½l. Ashbury Lad (12-1) 4th. 12 ran. Ecchinswell Oak did not run.
JACKPOT: Not won. Pool of £250.60 carried forward to Leicester today. PLACEPOT: £406.60.

Plumpton

1.45 (1.49) HICKSTEAD HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £553: 3m)
MISS PILGRIM, gr m, by Cumshaw—Early Settler (J. and G. Butler Ltd), 7-11-0 J. Akehurst (5-1) 1
Orange Town Man P. Double (14-1) 2
Revolver .... W. Smith (4-1 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 63p; places, 17p, 63p, 13p, Dual F: £10.71. CSF: £7.81. R. Wise, at Polgate. Nk, 3l. Wild Beauty (12-1) 4th. 18 ran.

2.15 (2.17) "CLAPPER" CHASE (Hunters: £881: 3m 1f)
THE TROUT, ch g, by Wily Trout—Gleamaway (R. Dukes), 13-11-7 .. Mr P. Dukes (33-1) 1
Set Point .. Miss B. Kirkby (8-1) 2
Captain Clover Mr R. Fear (9-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £3.14; places, 54p, 31p, 16p. Dual F: winner and second with any other horse, 30p. CSF: £37.29. Mrs B. Dukes, at Upham. Nk, hd. Ten Up (13.8 fav), Night School (12-1) 4th. 15 ran.

2.45 (2.47) I.G. INDEX LTD CHASE (Handicap: £1,570: 2m 5f)
ROCKBARTON, b g, by Lord Gayle—June's Slipper (K. Higson), 6-10-0 .... G. Moore (20-1) 1
White Heron .. M. Bastard (10-1) 2
Extrovert .... B. de Haan (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 90p; places, 39p, 20p. Dual F: £2.43. CSF: £18.87. A. Moore, at Brighton, 2l, 8l. Keengaddy (8-13 fav) 4th 6 ran.

3.15 (3.18) SOLARAMIC HURDLE (£798: 2m)
TOPPING, b g by Alcide—Tudor Top (G. Ham) 10-11-7 S. May (20-1) 1
Call Bird M. Bastard (7-1) 2
Master Thief S. Smith Eccles (4-1 jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win, £5.51; places, 70p, 24p, 32p: dual forecast £19.51. CSF: £16.46. G. Ham at Axbridge. 1l, 7l. Seloway (4-1 jt fav), Four New Pence (25-1), 4th. Double Stretch, Tamanaco did not run.

3.45 (3.49) SHEEKEYS RESTAURANT CHASE (Maidens: £1,058: 2m)
TYNE, ch g by Yellow River—Tyrotina (Mrs C. Gillingham) 6-11-11 .... R. Rowe (6-1) 1
King's Champion P. Barton (10-11 fav) 2
Prides Pal .... Mr T. Clay (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 59p; places, 17p, 17p, 25p; dual forecast, 44p. CSF, £1.[illegible]. Mrs D. Oughton at Findon. 2½l, 1l. Bronze Image (33-1), 4th. 14 ran. Miss Pilgrim did not run.

4.15 (4.18) HICKSTEAD HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £552: 3m)
MR BATNAC, br g, by Cantab—Cathy Gale (A. Wates) 11-11-7 A. Webber (10-1) 1
Glen Wise .. J. Akehurst (13-1) 2
English King G. McCourt (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.22; places, 22p, 35p, 99p; dual forecast, £9.00. CSF: £15.25. A. Wates, Dorking. 8l, 6l. Primside Marcus Agrippa (5-2 jt favs), Joveno (14-1), 4th. 15 ran.

PLACEPOT: Not won. Pool of £566.50 carried forward to Leicester today.

STATE OF GOING (official): Leicester: Chase course good. Hurdles course, good to soft. Sedgefield: Good. Tomorrow Windsor: Chase course, good to soft. Hurdles course, soft. Haydock Park: Soft.

Leicester programme

1.30 OADBY HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £690: 2m)

2 01 Crimson Embers (D, B), F. Walwyn, 6-11-8 Shilston 1
3 0-p Brandy Bay, J. Bosley, 8-11-1 .... Waite 4
4 34p-0 Brother Kempinski, J. Spearing, 6-11-1 Dickin
6 0b3-0 Jayboy, R. Hollinshead, 6-11-1 .. Mr Carden
7 00/p- Lonely Voice, G. Dingwall, 6-11-1 Murphy
8 00 Mistress Crespin, J. Harris, 6-11-1 Keightley 7
9 p My Sunny, R. Sheather, 9-11-1 .... Barlow
10 0/0 Prince Valentino, D. H. Jones, 7-11-1 Smith Eccles
13 0-00 Restless Shot, J. Webber, 6-11-1 .. Webber
14 0000 Rushock, D. Marks, 6-11-1 ...... O'Halloran
16 ,000- Spartakus, Mrs J. Pitman, 6-11-1 Miss Harvey 7
17 0-000 Tudonia, D. Nugent, 6-11-1 .... Mann 7
19 00 Bicton Briar Rose, R. Morris, 5-10-12 Morris
20 3-033 Bihas Bounty, A. Pitt, 5-10-12 .... Cox 4
21 00p-0 Bleathwood, K. White, 5-10-12 .... Burke
22 000 Dame Sue, S. Mellor, 5-10-12 .. Blacker
24 0-040 Eddie, J. Gifford, 5-10-12 ...... Champion
25 00 Humber Prince, Mrs J. Pitman, 5-10-12 Smart
27 00 Quite Right, W. Clay, 5-10-12 ...... Clay
28 000 Walshford Lad, D. Nicholson, 5-10-12 Scudamore
11-8 Crimson Embers, 100-30 Bihas Bounty, 9-2 Brother Kempinski, 15-2 Eddie, Humber Prince, 14-1 others.

2.0 BURTON LAZARS HURDLE (Selling handicap: £641: 2m)

201 0000 Stormy Affair (D, B), G. Lockerbie, 8-11-10 M. Richards 7
202 0404 Birshell, J. Harris, 9-11-9 ...... Johnson 7
203 01-00 Solonvdle, O. O'Neill, 10-11-8 ...... Hyett
204 0000 Destiny Hill (D), S. Holland, 10-11-8 Holland
205 00-0 Nonchalant, A. Smith, 6-11-8 ...... —
207 2f-f0 Rust Borough (D), P. Bevan, 9-11-7 Wall 7
208 3003- Spots, A. Jarvis, 5-11-6 .... Scudamore
209 300/ Upper Echelon (D), J. Mulhall, 9-11-5 —
214 0000 Richard Grenville (D, B), W. Clay, 10-10-11 Clay
215 0/0-0 Balloon, T. Underwood, 8-10-11 .. Rodmond
216 /0-00 Roniana (D), W. Whiston, 8-10-10 P. Barry
218 0202 The Harnser, K. Morgan, 6-10-10 .. Webb
220 000-0 Dubrovnik, Mrs A. Piggott, 10-10-9 G. Jones
221 3000 Beau Wyck, T. Skuse, 8-10-8 .... Skuse 7
222 000u Pilgrims Progress, Mrs J. Pitman, 7-10-8 Smart
223 0013 Warren Gorse (D), H. Fleming, 7-10-7 Avery 7
224 000-0 Paddy's Taxi, A. Rumsey, 7-10-7 Mr Castell 4
225 b0uf Roker Park, L. Bridge, 8-10-7 Mr Rowley 7
226 0010 Coxmoore Sweaters (D, B), Mrs R. Lomax, 8-10-6 ...... Keightley 7
227 0-200 Gianlorenzo, J. Perrett, 9-10-5 .... Asbury
228 s0p0 Keno Hill (D), A. Davison, 6-10-5 Banham 4
229 f0-00 Rue D'Or, Miss A. H-Wood, 10-10-4 Bastard 4
230 rbp0- Araucano (B), D. Jermy, 6-10-2 Stroud 7
238 0010 Eva Anne (D), C. Burr, 7-10-0 .... Candy
240 4000 Gentle Rose (D), M. Chapman, 10-10-0 Charles-Jones 7
241 00p0 Young Horn (D), Mrs K. Bull, 6-10-0 McSharry 7
245 0-00r Playful Warrior (D, B), G. Hackling, 14-10-0 McCourt
246 0b00 Matsuba, M. Chapman, 11-10-0 ...... Barton
247 1/00 Tabernacle, K. Bridgwater, 8-10-0 .. Dobbs 7
248 f030 The Surveyor, R. Hollinshead, 5-10-0 Carcary 7
5-2 Warren Gorse, 5-1 Destiny Hill, 7-2 Spots, 7-1 The Harnser, 15-2 Nonchalant, 10-1 Stormy Affair, 14-1 others.

2.30 BELVOIR CHASE (Handicap: £1,282: 3m)

304 040p Highland Barolo (CD), R. Lyles, 9-11-4 Mr Lyles 4
306 p-003 Devon Mignon, R. Bethell, 11-11-1 .. Tuck
307 0331 •Uther Pendragon (D), T. Forster, 9-11-0 Francome
308 2132 Spartan Major (B), Mrs W. Sykes, 7-10-12 Morshead
310 0301 Baltic Love, G. Blum, 9-10-8 .... Barlow
311 fp3b- This Way (D), J. George, 10-10-5 .. Candy
313 0040 Wild Chorus (D), M. Wilesmith, 11-10-1 Dickin
313 0/4p- Crestino, O. O'Neill, 10-10-0 .... Suthern
314 u004 Mollis, P. Cundell, 6-10-0 .... Scudamore
11-8 Spartan Major, 5-2 Devon Mignon, 4-1 Highland Barolo, 6-1 Baltic Love, 13-1 others.

3.0 THURNBY CHASE (Novices: £1,435: 2m)

402 3/01 Buckville (D), T. Underwood, 8-11-10 Redmond 4
405 2u41 Woodland Glen (D), O. O'Neill, 6-11-10 Suthern
409 00p0 Charnrulla, M. Oliver, 7-11-5 .... P. Hobbs
411 p0/0 Charlormode, J. Spearing, 8-11-5 .. Dickin
412 0npu Clonmullen, M. Ryan, 8-11-5 .. McLaughlin 4
414 p0/0 First Break, M. Low, 10-11-5 ...... Hyett
415 0-004 Galaxy King, K. White, 6-11-5 ...... Burke
418 0301 Major Knight, R. Head, 7-11-5 .. Francome
419 u300 Master Oryx, T. Forster, 7-11-5 .... Linley
420 00-00 Menelikoly, J. Webber, 6-11-5 Mr P. Webber
424 00/ Shabraque, K. Bailey, 7-11-5 .. A. Webber
425 1-000 Tarzan, J. Gifford, 6-11-5 .... Champion
426 10/3 The Corinthian, D. Morley, 8-11-5 B. Davies
428 3000 Virginia Hill, N. Henderson, 6-11-5 Smith Eccles
429 004r Whistle For Jack, D. Elsworth, 6-11-5 C. Brown
2-1 Buckville, 3-1 The Corinthian, 9-2 Major Knight, 6-1 Woodland Glen, 8-1 Tarzan, 10-1 Virginia Hill, 14-1 others.

3.30 CHARNWOOD HURDLE (Handicap: £718: 2m)

504 0-300 Keynsham (D), D. Marks, 6-11-7 O'Halloran
505 0100 Saracen Prince (D), W. Clay, 5-11-3 Clay
506 10- Rahaj (D), H. Jackson, 5-11-2 .. DeHaan 4
507 0 Sabi, D. Hanley, 7-11-1 ...... C. Brown
509 /000 New Bee (D), D. Nugent, 8-10-13 .. Smart
510 10-00 Free Drop, D. Oseman, 6-10-13 .. C. Smith
511 1-020 Relevance, P. Ransom, 6-10-12 Smith Eccles
512 0040 If and When (D), J. Priday, 6-10-12 G. Jones
513 000p George Kirtland (D), J. Priday, 9-10-11 Darlington 7
514 0-004 Mizzenhead, M. W. Easterby, 6-10-9 .. Tuck
516 3110 Hasty Dawn (D), P. Bailey, 4-10-6 Mr P. Webber
517 040 Magnolia Lad, R. Hollinshead, 8-10-1 Asbury
519 0-f00 Bushy Bay (B), S. Mellor, 7-10-0 .. Carroll
520 0000 Gold Measure (D), S. Holland, 4-10-0 R. Davies
521 001u Chaperon (CD), I. Harris, 5-10-0 Keightley 7
522 3320 Very Friendly (D), A. Birch, 5-10-0 Wall 7
524 0000 Liz Wolf, L. Bridge, 4-10-0 .. Mr Rowley 7
525 0302 Chelsea Island, A. Taylor, 6-10-0 Mr Low 7
9-4 Hasty Dawn, 3-1 Keynsham, 4-1 Mizzenhead, 6-1 Magnolia Lad, 8-1 Saracen Prince, 10-1 Relevance, 14-1 others.

4.0 OADBY HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £690: 2m)

602 0401 Loyal and Regal (CD), Mrs M. Thomas, 5-11-5 Bastard 4
604 3-000 African Prince, J. Gifford, 6-11-1 Champion
607 0/0u Devas, D. Ringer, 8-11-1 .... Hannington 7
608 Dundrum Bay, O. O'Neill, 6-11-1 .. Suthern
609 Evil Spirit, O. Brennan, 8-11-1 .. Brennan 7
610 Jem Rodney, H. Jackson, 6-11-1 .... Smart
612 20u3 Lunar Wind, J. Parkes, 6-11-1 McCaskill 7
613 00 Mayfair Man, D. H. Jones, 6-11-1 Smith Eccles
618 0 Sam Bennion, M. Wilesmith, 6-11-1 Dickin
619 0 Vividus, D. Ringer, 6-11-1 ...... McNeill
620 3 Bee Sting, P. Cundell, 5-10-12 .. Scudamore
621 0 Boughton Cone, M. Low, 5-10-12 Mr Low 7
625 2 Corduroy, D. Morley, 5-10-12 .. B. Davies
624 0bf0 Elmbrook, R. Head, 5-10-12 .... Francome
626 00 Jubilee Dancer, K. Bridgwater, 5-10-12 A. Webber
627 4330 Leith Hill Flyer, A. Pitt, 5-10-12 .. Cox 4
630 0f-00 Rivadon, W. Clay, 5-10-12 .... Clay
631 f Rugby Royal, J. Czerpak, 5-10-12 McNally
15-8 Corduroy, 5-2 Bee Sting, 9-2 Elmbrook, 5-1 Loyal And Regal, 7-1 Leith Hill Flyer, 10-1 others.

• Doubtful runner

Leicester selections

By Michael Seely

1.30 Crimson Embers. 2.0 Gentle Rose. 2.30 Spartan Major. 3.0 The Corinthian. 3.30 Chelsea Island. 4.0 CORDUROY is specially recommended.

Sedgefield selections

By Michael Seely

12.45 Caleta Prince. 1.15 Sanskritik. 1.45 Solo Sam. 2.15 Kenlis. 2.45 New House Estate. 3.15 Miss Wood. 3.45 Angostura.

Mr Len Murray attacks the staggering decline in the economy and argues for a national investment bank funded from North Sea oil revenue

There is an alternative for recovery

"If we carry economy of every kind to its logical conclusion, we shall find that we have balanced the budget at nought on both sides with all of us flat on our backs starving to death. What are we releasing resources for today? To stand at street corners and draw the dole."

Fifty years on, the policies of today's Government have a ring of frightening familiarity to those that John Maynard Keynes so scathingly dismissed.

Circumstances change. Problems take on new dimensions. But the lessons of history should not be so lightly dismissed. Unions are ready to learn from their experiences.

Union representatives from all over Britain will be meeting at the TUC today to consider how the organization, structure and services of their national centre can best be developed. Trade unionists know that their institutions and working methods need to develop and adjust in line with new circumstances and changing demands.

Deep-seated economic problems form the backcloth for our debate. Key industries are uncompetitive in a depressed and dangerous world trading environment. Instead of addressing these underlying problems this Government has aggravated and intensified them.

The list of Britain's maladies is all too familiar: basic industries running down to the point of collapse, imports pushing British goods off the shelves in our shops, basic services stretching and straining trying to cope with ever-growing needs with ever-dwindling resources. The result of these ailments is the ugly and painful running sore of mass unemployment.

In less than two years in office the Government has brought about a decline in our economy of staggering proportions. Last year output fell by 3 per cent from the 1979 level. Investment fell by 4 per cent in only the first six months of 1980. Cuts have been made in the public spending programmes planned by the last government hitting standards of health care and education, and penalizing social security claimants. Key industrial sectors have been squeezed and squeezed again. Between the second quarter of 1979 and the third quarter of 1980 total manufacturing production fell by 15 per cent.

More than a million people have been added to the unemployment register, while hundreds of thousands of others have been condemned to short-time working. A million more people who do not appear in the register search vainly for work.

Meanwhile, the Government can hardly claim much success in reducing inflation. The rate of inflation may be falling—but only the VAT-induced inflation which the Government itself caused.

The Government has manifestly not succeeded in implementing policies which can allow output growth and the control of inflation.

Despite the Government's strident protestations to the contrary there is an alternative to this growing catastrophe. The TUC's *Economic Review*, published yesterday, offers a plan for growth and national recovery.

We have to have a programme for bringing down inflation side by side with meeting other equally important objectives of economic policy.

The TUC's plan looks rationally at the savings side of the economy and the investment side of the economy to make sure we use all our real resources effectively. As a painful illustration of the general thesis of the waste of resources in the present policy, no more extreme illustration can be found than in the case of the North Sea oil revenues.

When the Labour government produced its White Paper on the uses of North Sea oil revenues three years ago, there was a useful debate about the proper balance of deployment between industrial investment, public investment, increased consumption and investment overseas. What no-one suggested at that time was there could be a fifth or sixth option, namely that North Sea oil revenues should be used exclusively to finance a growing number of unemployed people.

This year North Sea oil revenues amount to more than £5,000m. Meanwhile, the present level of unemployment means a loss of output of £18,000m. There could be no crazier way to run the economy than that.

The strategic use of North Sea oil revenues remains one of the keys to a rational plan for the future. The energy revenues, combined with the great resources of the pension funds, should jointly fund a national investment bank with the powers to stimulate the industrial regeneration that is so badly needed.

Public expenditure should be used to start repairing the economy, boosting output and employment. Capital investment in our industrial infrastructure—like transport and energy—could act as an engine for growth.

To rebuild British industry import penetration must be controlled—not by blanket protectionism but by "managing" trade, giving selective help to those sectors that are most in need.

The TUC is not in business to make a fetish out of economic centralization. We are acutely aware of the growing pressures from above and from below in managing an economy which has a uniquely long and challenging history of democratic development. We can all see from a safe distance how complex these problems are in Poland and we sympathize with the endeavours there to find constructive solutions.

Ministers' sympathetic rhetoric about human freedoms a thousand miles away seems to bear little relationship, however, to their domestic approach to these issues.

The ingenuity, inventiveness and initiative of the trade union movement is being deployed day in and out up and down the country in the service of working people. Instead of drawing on our energy, and challenging the movement to take on greater responsibilities, this Government has placed dogma before consensus.

The TUC's plan for growth is now on the table with the Government. At the National Economic Development Council tomorrow the TUC will be seeking the support of the Government, and the Confederation of British Industry for a new start in really tackling the deep-seated problems of the British economy.

The depth and severity of our problems means that action is needed now. As a first step towards recovery in the budget the Government must replace the £6,000m that has been hacked out of the economy since they took office.

> **'Mr Len Murray: "The Government has not succeeded in implementing policies which can allow output growth and the control of inflation'**



Targets should be set for the rate of price increases against a background of that economic plan. Greater profitability is needed in industry, as part of an expanding economy, but with workers receiving their just proportion of the wealth produced. Policies for taxation and public expenditure must reflect principles of social justice as well as abstract conceptions of market forces.

Against that background there should be an end to the constant sniping at the trade union movement and a recognition of the need, as is now recognized in Europe, for workers to be fully consulted about and involved in the processes of change in a world of rapidly advancing technology and transnational corporations.

We must reexamine the sharpness of the division in society between employment and non-employment, the rigid ages of retirement, the different life experience of many women, the pattern of working hours in the working week, and all the other great social changes which we can see around us.

These are the great issues facing our country. They cannot be dismissed by a parrot-like recitation that there is no alternative. In our conference today trade unions will be seriously and maturely examining our future role. *The Times* will, I hope, long continue its traditions of providing a forum for the debate of the great issues of our time.

Sooner rather than later I hope the Government will learn the lessons so painfully learned in the Thirties and also open their minds to the real challenges of the Eighties. Many companies are now measuring their chances of survival, in months, even weeks. The time for a change is now.

Bernard Levin

Censors and sensibility



Mr Timothy Sainsbury and the kind of Soho establishment he opposes.

Send for Macaulay, somebody; another periodical fit of morality has come upon the British people, or at any rate (the distinction is an important one) upon Mr Tim Sainsbury, MP, who, his earnest, round, bespectacled face suggesting a combination of the Swot of the Remove and the Sneak of the Upper Fifth, has been hopping up and down with self-righteousness over his Private Member's Indecent Displays (Control) Bill, which was given an unopposed second reading last Friday, and looks likely to be enacted into law without difficulty.

Mr Sainsbury's Bill, be it said, is not as indecent as some recent proposals from the terrible army of banners. It seeks to make criminal the public display (e g, in shop windows or outside cinemas or strip-clubs) of indecent matter; Mr Sainsbury claims that the measure seeks to do little more than simplify and tidy up the existing law (but then, as the lady said to the judge, he would, wouldn't he?). He has, of course, funked the attempt to provide a legal definition of "indecent"; all censors are obliged to run away from that intractable problem, not because it is difficult to solve (though it is—indeed, it is impossible) but because the attempt, and not the deed, confounds them: as soon as they take the first step on the road to definition, they cannot escape going on to the end of the road, where lies the uncomfortable truth that indecency is always in the eye of the beholder, in other words that it is an entirely subjective phenomenon. Mr Sainsbury is, or at the very least feels he should be, offended by the displays that "people cannot avoid seeing as they walk along the pavement to buy some cigarettes or do some shopping". (I say: since a good deal of the shopping in question inevitably takes place at the shops of the family firm, and if the Bill has the intended effect it must to some extent increase the amount of shopping done, ought he not to have declared an interest?) From this—*ex uno, disce omnes*—he naturally concludes that what offends *him* offends everybody else, and therefore must be put down by the criminal law. But must it?

Surely the test of the applicability of the criminal law in these areas is not offence, but harm. And Mr Sainsbury is hard put to it to maintain that the pictures of naked ladies and gentlemen engaged in various keep-fit exercises that adorn the windows of pornshops and the doorways of pornoramas do any harm to anybody. (The one about children having to go to school past these displays was used, of course, and Mr Sainsbury, the better to evade the definition problem, has even been heard wheeling out that mould-spattered old cliché about recognizing an elephant being easy even if defining one is impossible, but none of this need be taken seriously.)

Now as a matter of fact I, too, am offended by some of the displays the Bill would seek to ban, though not for quite the same reasons as those that seem to trouble Mr Sainsbury. The sleaziness and seediness of the premises he has in mind, and the ugliness of the women in the photographs, offend both my aesthetic sense and my wish that our cities should be handsome and dignified places, to say nothing of my liking for beautiful ladies. I would very much like to see such displays disappear. But I do not think that my wishes in this matter should be used as the basis for imprisoning those who do not share them. Mr Sainsbury is of a more confident mind. But, *uomo universale* though he no doubt is, I really do not see why his wishes in the matter should prevail. He may retort that he does not see why mine should, but then. I am not proposing to add further crimes to the Statute Book, and send more people to prison (for up to two years, incidentally) for breaking them, and give more opportunities to snoopers and informers and itchy-palmed policemen; the burden of proof must always lie *on* those who wish to alter the existing state of affairs, not on those who wish to leave it alone.

All censors rest their case on the same unspoken assumption: that they know better what is good for other people than other people do. The classic refutation of this fallacy was made by Gerald Gardiner in the *Lady Chatterley* case, analysing the parallel argument about statutes which seek to ban that which has a tendency to deprave or corrupt:

> . . . nobody suggests that the Director of Public Prosecutions becomes depraved or corrupted. Counsel read the book; they do not become depraved of corrupted. Witnesses read the book; they do not become depraved or corrupted. Nobody suggests the Judge or the Jury become depraved or corrupted. *It is always somebody else; it is never ourselves.*

Similarly, Mr Sainsbury rests his case on the equally untenable proposition that *other people* need to be shielded by the criminal law from being given offence. I am not at all sure that the criminal law in a democracy has any business at all shielding people from being given offence even if they actually are, and though I have no doubt that, given the necessity, Mrs Whitehouse could organize several hundred letters, couched in identical terms, in support of Mr Sainsbury's Bill, I propose for the time being to remain of the opinion that there is no great public clamour for such a measure, and that even if there were it does not follow that the clamour should be heeded.

As I find myself asking more and more these days: what has become of the old principle of live and let live? To be sure, Mr Sainsbury is entitled to the benefit of the principle, too; he no doubt wants to go down to parliamentary history in a modest way as the author of an Act of Parliament, and perhaps some part of him thrills secretly at the thought that in putting such a law into effect he is in a position "to monarchize, be feared, and kill with looks". But there are more pornographers than parliamentary wowsers, and even more members of the public altogether indifferent to the argument, and they, too, have a right to be considered.

Mr Sainsbury's Bill, as I say, could be a lot worse. But that does not mean it is necessary, or even desirable. He should consider, quietly and alone, whether he is not, when all is said, in the same position as the old lady in the old story, who summons a policeman to her home and tells him in trembling indignation that there is a man in the house opposite standing naked in the window. The policeman peers out and declares that he can see no such sight. "Of course not", says the affronted crone, "you have to climb on the table."

Why talking with Neddy is so helpful

The Prime Minister tomorrow chairs the monthly meeting of the National Economic Development Council (Neddy) for the second time in just over a year. During that year, despite all the difficulties of relationships, Neddy has provided a unique national forum for a series of discussions between the Government, management and trade union representatives on the Government's economic policies and other central facets of the economic and industrial scene.

Rising unemployment has deepened the divide between government and trade unions on economic policy. The impact on an inheritance of non-competitiveness of a strong pound, high interest rates and, in certain areas, high energy costs, has left management ambivalent in its attitude to a government which it also believes has done much for British industry.

All this had fed the national predilection for seeking scapegoats for our relative economic failure and attributing blame to any but our own sector of society.

At the conference of the Confederation of British Industry last year a delegate asked how many of those present felt some responsibility for the state of the economy. The small scatter of raised hands exemplified our problem. A similar response could be expected from any representative trade union gathering, from the engineering institutions or, I fear, from any of us.

The barriers preventing change in these attitudes are firmly institutionalized: an education which conceals its economic basis from those who are educated; differences of status unrelated to function or purpose; an absence of consultative mechanisms in many industrial companies; management and trade union training which is studiously segregated, so protecting dogma and shibboleth from critical examination; collective bargaining too often carried out in the dark, with bluff or brinkmanship substituting for equal knowledge and analytical capability on both sides.

The complexity of the causes of our economic and industrial problems is such that change is needed on the part of all. Any institution that can help diminish barriers and create linkages has a vital contribution to make.

One monthly meeting of Neddy, viewed in isolation, may often be *no* more meaningful than one month's trade figures, although impressive in its moderation and constructiveness of discussion. But regular monthly discussions constitute a cumulative learning process which has led to perceptible positive changes in tone, language and attitude and a gradual extension of the agenda.

The ability to include in discussion government's role in industry, unemployment, the role of pay as an economic variable, the use of North Sea oil revenue and, next week, the medium-term prospects for British industry is itself of crucial importance.

Blunt disagreements exist on these fundamental issues and are bluntly expressed, and it would be wrong to suggest that

> Any institution that can help diminish barriers and create linkages has a vital contribution to make . . .

there has been significa[nt] outward change in the approa[ch] of the parties: Neddy is [not] the road to Damascus. [But] these discussons, while rep[eti]tive in disagreement on so[me] of the central econo[mic] themes, have also sought [to] enlarge areas where posi[tive] progress can be made.

A programme for u[sing] public purchasing as an ai[d] to industrial efficiency, ren[ew]ed attack on the intractable [pr]oblem of specifications and [st]andards, the acceptance that energy pricing problems exist for specific parts of industry, all have been stimulated or strengthened by Neddy's efforts.

It would be too much to say that Neddy represents an implicit bargaining process, because power lies elsewhere. But if part of the essence of bargaining is men making reasonable arguments for their point of view, it is a contributory factor to the national bargaining process.

Unrealistic expectations constitute the greatest danger to Neddy: criticism from those who are not party to the monthly debate is often in direct proportion to their distance from it. Neddy represents an idea—that consensus is a necessary condition of progress in this country, not to fudge policies but to provide mutual understanding so that, at the least, disagreement can be better informed and, at best, change can be stimulated.

Neddy's strong industrial orientation has now been maintained under two governments through its tripartite committees. These cover a wide spectrum of manufacturing and other sectors. Though perhaps less cohesive than in a period of greater government involvement with industry, they exercise at sector level the function that Neddy plays nationally in bringing the three parties together and provide a practical approach to problems which have not yielded to market forces. The willingness of many distinguished managers, trade unionists, and independents to give their time voluntarily as chairmen or members of these committees is an indication of the potential value which they see in the process.

Of the committee's diverse activities, some of the most important are demonstrating best practice, improving market knowledge and creating linkages which should have, but have not, been brought about by competitive pressures: between users and makers of industrial and consumer products, so that manufacturers can better understand the reasons for the inroads into our home and overseas markets; between government agencies and industry's needs; between industries whose technologies are changing and merging but which unlike our competitors, have remained too rigidly separate.

The aim is to help recreate international competitiveness and restore to the words "Made in Britain" their former value. But is is individual companies which must make decisions and take action and it is change at company and plant level, assisted by the stimulus the committee bring to awareness of problem and their potential solution which will be the most important validation of their work.

Without Neddy we would be left with trench warfare, the views of each side visible to the other only when fusillades are publicly discharged. Neddy provides a monthly reminder to Britain's economic protagonists that there are at least two sides to a problem and that ultimately government management and trade union work by consent, not by authority.

It symbolizes that sense of reason, moderation and equity which lies deep in this country and whose harnessing is an essential condition of change.

Geoffrey Chandler

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LONDON DIARY

Is the Gang of 13 a wrong number?

If, in spite of the chorus of appeals for unity and brotherhood, the Labour Party loses its right wing to some new right-of-the-middle-of-the-left-hand-side-of-the-road political grouping, the reason will not be simply that the party has lost the hearts and minds of the defectors. It will probably be because they have lost their telephone numbers as well.

Attempts by *The Times* to contact the local constituency parties of the Gang of Thirteen (Mr Jenkins and Mrs Williams excepted, of course) in the past few days have met with little success. It appears that the Labour Party headquarters in Walworth Road, London, has a plethora of telephone numbers for local party offices, agents, and the chairmen and secretaries of committees.

I can report that most of them fail to reply, are wrong numbers, unobtainable or are spare lines.

Even the party's regional organizers seem to have lost track of their troops in the field. The one contact number for the secretary of the committee of a constituency in Newcastle upon Tyne was out of date. Asked how he would try to contact the local party, the regional organizer replied: "It doesn't look as if I can, does it?"

Obtaining the correct numbers from one of the MPs themselves proved just as fruitless. One Member's secretary passed on a number which had long been a spare line.

An official at Labour's Walworth Road headquarters—still without a convenient shorthand name, incidentally, unlike its former home in Smith Square—seemed well aware of the problem. "We are very much at the mercy of constituency parties, and it can be extremely frustrating at times.

"We ask them for telephone numbers to be updated when there are any changes. Some parties are efficient and some are not. Communication is always a difficulty when dealing with voluntary workers on a part-time basis."

You can say that again. But I suspect the message is getting through to Walworth Road. In this week's edition of the party newspaper *Labour Weekly* there is an advertisement for a "directory assistant to assist in maintaining records". The ad quotes the party's new telephone number which, I am glad to say, works.

Papal echo

Canterbury Cathedral is holding a "vigil for peace" on Thursday, February 26, when people of all denominations and none will be invited to visit the modern martyrs' chapel to pray and light a candle.

The date was not plucked at random from the calendar; it coincides with the Pope's visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan, two towns whose significance needs no underlining by me. The Dean of Canterbury, the Very Rev Victor de Waal, hopes other cathedrals and churches will follow Canterbury's example.

Even less of a coincidence is the fact that Canterbury, and not some other cathedral, will be echoing the Pope's visit to Japan. It is Canterbury that will welcome the Pope during his visit to England in 1982, so February 26 is the first gesture of the special relationship the cathedral authorities want to foster.

Spies in the megalithic Department of the Environment headquarters in Marsham Street, London, report that Michael Heseltine, the secretary of state, is deeply concerned at the huge amount of photocopying done in the building: reliable reports speak of 100,000 sheets a day spewing from the copiers. Heseltine recently ordered the Department's organization and methods division to move in and cut the profligate waste. Their first act was to identify every original document copied on a particular day—and make a photocopy of it.

Extra time

One or two of you appear to have missed my announcement last week of the most glittering prize ever offered in a London Diary contest—a week for two in Greece. I have counted the number of entries received so far, and it falls fractionally short of the latest audited daily circulation of this newspaper.



An encomium of not more than two hundred words of prose or verse, composed entirely of English words derived from Greek, celebrating Greece's entry into the European Community, is required. Occasional articles and prepositions of lesser parentage are of course allowed. Besides the first prize of an expenses paid trip by courtesy of Olympic Holidays, and the second prize of L. R. Palmer's book *The Greek Language*, I am prepared to throw in a third prize of a bottle of brandy.

I may have underestimated the severity of this cerebral exercise, and I will therefore accept entries (addressed to me here and marked "Greek contest") up to the end of next week, February 13. Results and winners, as promised, in this space on Tuesday, March 3.

On the house

An assiduous reader of this particular patch of print has been putting two and two together and coming up with what I regard as a brilliant idea.

He noticed two recent stories which at the time, were entirely unconnected. The first was my report last month that Westminster City Council, short of funds to provide even the most basic amenities in some of its streets, had approved a successful scheme whereby private companies sponsor litter bins on the pavements of Soho and the surrounding area of theatreland. They get their names on the bins, and the streets are noticeably cleaner.

The second was my report, just before Christmas, that the ubiquitous public spending cuts have forced the City of London Corporation to close a number of its public lavatories within the Square Mile.

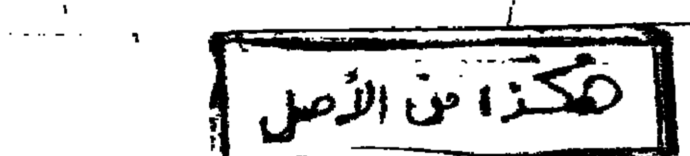
Alert readers will have made the connexion already. Why, asks my correspondent in a letter to the chairman of Allied Breweries, does not the brewing industry take a leaf out of Westminster's book and sponsor what Americans like to call "comfort stations" which the public purse can no longer afford to maintain

"The sponsorship of this service should perhaps be the preserve of those enterprises among them your own, whose product makes the need for it so distressingly imperative at those hours when your landlords and managers are not dispensing the raw material, as it were, and simultaneously providing disposal facilities *in situ*," said my reader to Allied's chairman.

I made an unproductive call to the chairman of Allied yesterday. Both he and his personal assistant were away (Anyone planning a takeover of Allied Breweries, now is your chance). But I reckon that any company which can afford to play its callers piano music on the telephone while they hang on for people who are not there can afford to treat this serious suggestion with the specific gravity it deserves.

Laugh if you like, but I swear that the transport manager of the Inner London Education Authority is a Mr Rick Shaw.

Alan Hamilton



Le Monde
LA STAMPA
THE TIMES
DIE WELT

Europa

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The Community: internal struggle, external challenge

If member states take separate action 'we do not stand a chance'

Rising oil prices and zero growth, Japanese competition and unemployment, state indebtedness and structural change—these are the words that dominate the headlines.

They summarize the world economic challenge to Europe where energy and raw materials are becoming scarce and more expensive, where the technology race—particularly with Japan—is becoming tougher, as is the labour cost race with the developing countries.

The scale of the economic and social changes initiated in the 1970s is becoming increasingly apparent. How are we reacting to these changes? Again and again we hear the call for import barriers to protect European products. But we are part of the world economy, which has emerged to form one large market. Europe cannot pretend it is an island and cut itself off from the rest of the world.

M Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister, called protectionism a "wrong solution, a step that cannot and should not be taken. It cannot be taken because closing our market—and let there be no illusions about this—would result in our losing our most important export markets. Then we would not have the resources we need to buy the energy and raw materials we cannot do without. Europe cannot be screened off for the simple reason that it depends on the outside world; it must import, and a country that must import, must export as well."

We cannot hide behind protective walls in Europe. We must accept the great challenge together and make the unavoidable adjustments together.

If the member states of the Community take separate or even conflicting action, we do not stand a chance.

The Community must give priority to two areas. First, we must reduce our dependence on imported energy. The change from imported energy to domestic sources is probably one of the greatest economic tasks we will face in the decades to come. It will also provide new opportunities for creating jobs, since it is essential that we develop, produce and install completely new types of building, new heating systems and energy-conserving engines and machines.

This will entail the investment of many millions of pounds. But that can be done only if energy prices are increased in Europe, which means accepting a somewhat lower standard of living in return for adequate and reliable energy supplies and jobs in alternative energies. The adjustment will also mean industrial change. We cannot avoid reducing capacities in particularly energy-intensive sectors of European industry and leaving production in these sectors to countries with extensive energy potential such as Saudi Arabia, Mexico and Venezuela.

Second, we must modernize our production structure and adapt it to the new requirements of the world market if we are to remain competitive or become competitive again.

To this end, we must at least take full advantage of the opportunities the EEC offers. The Community could and should be one large market serving more than 250 million consumers. The potential for research and development and also for mass production and distribution in this market is enormous.

We are not exploiting the cost and sales advantages of this market. The European market is still too much organized on national lines owing to differences in consumers' habits and, above all, to administrative and technical barriers of all kinds. We have more factories producing colour television tubes than we need because each country wants its own production facilities if it can maintain them.

We maintain steel and textile plants in places which are unsuitable and where production costs are therefore too high.

We allow ourselves the luxury of spending millions of pounds in subsidies to keep inefficient industrial plants alive and so make European industry as a whole less competitive than Japanese and, increasingly, American industry.

We obstruct mergers in industry with national monopolies legislation for fear that one or two companies in our domestic markets might assume a dominant position.

We hold fast to national telephone and telecommunications equipment and national railway rolling stock because we are afraid of the competition from other member states, instead of developing a few basic, European types of equipment for all the postal and railway administrations.

Our economy needs the Community. It must be made possible for our industry to specialize and to achieve a division of labour on a European scale. For this, technical, legal and administrative barriers to trade must be eliminated, technical standards must be harmonized, and public contracts must be open to anyone in the Community.

Aids and subsidies must be examined critically with the aim of doing away with those designed solely to ensure the survival of industries and of using the resources thus released to encourage innovation and possibly as direct employment aids. Investments which are conducive to rationalization and technical progress must be helped and encouraged. Industry must become more competitive if there is to be full employment in Europe again.

The great process of adjustment will require willingness on the part of businessmen to take risks, mobility of labour, and acceptance by everyone that the scope for trade in our domestic economies is limited. It will require effort and sacrifice, evenly and fairly shared. This will be possible only if all sectors of society cooperate.

The great adjustment is more than a technical and economic task: it will raise major social, even political, problems. Industry, the trade unions and political parties, parliaments, governments and European institutions will have many an awkward and unpopular decision to take.

All the democratic forces must pull together in this process to make Europe economically strong and socially progressive—a Europe which is open to the world and willing to cooperate with the world.

Wilhelm Haferkamp
member of the Commission of the European Communities



Mexico is a country with extensive energy potential. Drilling for oil in the Tabasco area. Ed Mullis

Britain wants respect not popularity

The British Government's priorities for action in the European Community in the months ahead—which Lord Carrington says the Labour Party in its own interest ought to endorse as well— are discussed by the Foreign Secretary in this interview with David Spanier



Harry Kerr

Britain seems to be rather unpopular in the European Community. Why is this?

Our aim in the Community is not to be popular; it is to be respected. It is for others to judge if we are achieving this. I am not aware that Britain is unpopular, certainly not more than anyone else. We have worked hard to protect vital national interests, but we have also taken pains to emphasize Britain's whole-hearted commitment to the Community, and our determination to play a full part in its development.

I am encouraged by the positive response in Europe to my speech in Hamburg on this theme last November. As the Prime Minister put it in a recent French radio interview: there is no such thing as a separate Community interest; the Community interest is compounded of national interests of the 10 member states.

Are you concerned on the other side about the British public's apparent hostility to the Community?

Yes; in a democratic society the Government must carry broad support for its policies; if we do not, something needs to be done. We are making considerable efforts; British ministers have been emphasizing in recent speeches the benefits we get from membership of the Community. It is not a propaganda campaign: rather an effort to explain the facts and reasons why we think our policies are right.

Also, there is a need to show that we have constructive ideas on the development of the Community in a way which brings maximum advantage to ordinary people—in Britain and elsewhere. I note that you say "apparent hostility". The 1975 referendum showed that although some detailed aspects of the Community bureaucracy may irritate people, the majority know where their real interests lie when it comes to major decisions affecting their future prosperity and security.

What do you think about the Labour Party's policy of taking Britain out of the Community?

I am saddened by it. It seems to me unworthy of the party which when in Government applied for membership, recommended a positive vote in the 1975 referendum, and then worked to consolidate our position as a fully established member of the Community. Many leading members of the party are clearly unhappy about the decision to turn its back on Europe, and indeed the outside world. They are also unhappy because it undermines our efforts to convince our European partners of the strength and sincerity of our commitment.

Labour's real interests lie in wholehearted support for our efforts to secure the important reforms which we need on restructuring the budget and in agricultural policy, for example, which will benefit all irrespective of political persuasion.

What woud you like to see happen in the Community this year?

Some crucially important tasks lie ahead which will shape the whole future of the Community. Progress is essential during the year on restructuring and on agriculture; on enlargement negotiations; and on strengthening cooperation in foreign policy. The member states are agreed about the priority which these tasks must be given. There are also important items of outstanding business; such as conclusion of common fishery policy negotiations, which is an urgent task.

Is there anything in your view that can be done to speed the decision-making process?

The Community has been looking at its decision-making procedures. The Three Wise Men's report recommended some sensible changes which were endorsed by the European Council and should secure modest improvements in the Community decision-making process. But many important Community decisions involve reconciling vital and sometimes conflicting national interests; and satisfactory compromises are achieved only by patience, flexibility and hard work, which require time. No magic procedural devices can conjure up instant solutions.

When you look at other international organizations you will see that Europe has, by comparison, developed very effective decision-making processes. When speed is important, for instance on the Italian earthquake, or Polish food aid, the Community can make decisions and take action remarkably quickly.

Are you in favour of reviving the idea of majority voting?

It is not a question of revival. The principle of majority voting is built into the treaties. But for major issues affecting important national interests it is sensible that decisions should be taken by consensus.

Do you foresee the Community developing towards a more federal type of organization?

I am not enthusiastic about the blueprint approach to Europe, with dialectic arguments about federalism and confederalism (whatever these terms mean). The ability to adapt and evolve is one of the Community's major assets; and I am confident that it will remain so. Changes must take place by evolution, in response to changing circumstances and in accordance with the wishes of all our citizens; they cannot be imposed by planners dreaming up concepts based on Utopian ideals of what they think Europe ought to look like.

What about the German Foreign Minister's latest suggestions of a European Union? Are you satisfied with the way political cooperation is developing?

Broadly, yes. But there is scope for improvement. I have made some suggestions, as in my Hamburg speech. Now the foreign ministers have instructed officials to produce a report on the subject. Naturally, I welcome the emphasis in Herr Genscher's recent speech in Stuttgart on the need to develop a common European foreign policy as one means of promoting closer cooperation among the Ten. I would like to hear more about his ideas.

Speaking of foreign policy, does the so-called European initiative on the Middle East have any real significance?

In all my talks with Arab leaders, including most recently in North Africa, it has been made clear to me that they thought the European efforts on the Middle East were extremely significant. All of the parties concerned in the Middle East—whether they approve of the European ideas or not—clearly take them seriously.

You cannot expect rapid progress in a problem as complicated and long-standing as that of the Middle East, but the current situation there is perhaps more fluid now than it has been for some time, and that is why Mr Van Der Klaauw's talks in the Middle East will be particularly significant. We have done some serious work on the problems involved and are determined to make a serious contribution at the right moment.

But can you realistically pursue a policy which is apparently in conflict with the United States?

There is no "conflict" between Europe and the United States over the Middle East. Our approaches are not necessarily identical, but they are both directed to the same end, which is to secure lasting peace and justice in that region. We consult the United States fully and take account of their views, and the United States is well aware of European views. We may not always agree, but we are always in close consultation, and we are both working towards the same end. The European action works at various levels. We can try to boil things down to get the most realistic approach. Europe has a role in influencing the United States too.

Finally, is there any scope for including defence policy in the Community?

I doubt if there is any scope for formal Community decisions. All the member states except one belong to Nato, which is where the main thrust of Western European defence policy should be concentrated. Of course, questions concerning the security of Europe are discussed in political cooperation and form part of the process of building a common European foreign policy. Defence and security policies can never be rigidly compartmentalized.

Viewpoint/Francois Duchêne

Concealing deep roots of the agricultural crisis

One of the most underexposed facts about agriculture in Western Europe is that nearly 15 years after a common agricultural policy has been set up, national governments still spend twice as much on their farmers as does the Community budget which is so heavily criticized.

This does more than illustrate the extent to which national policies are responsible for Community surpluses. It also underlines the gap between myth and reality in the CAP. The main effect of this gap is to conceal how much deeper are the roots of the agricultural crisis than the fashionable harping on the failings of the CAP might lead one to suppose.

To be sure, the original sin of the CAP was to raise prices to somewhere near German levels and not lower them to Dutch or French ones. That in itself has encouraged surpluses, particularly in the most critical sector of milk and dairy products.

Yet national farm *surpluses* emerged in the late 1950s, before the EEC began to operate, let alone the CAP which came in during the 1960s. Ironic as it may seem today, the CAP's main author, the Dutchman Sicco Mansholt, hoped to drown these limited surpluses in the larger market and, by relatively low prices, stop them reappearing. He failed because the ambitions of the farmers and member states were too strong. Nevertheless, surpluses predated the CAP and cannot simply be ascribed to it.

There is even evidence from the CAP itself that high prices do not in all cases produce surpluses. The United Nations statistics show that, compared to industrial workers, farmers in Italy made bigger income gains during the 1960s, in the formative years of the CAP, than their counterparts in other member countries (Table 1). One the face of it, this should have led to special overproduction in Italy. In fact, the contrary happened. Italy was unique in the EEC in that it moved rapidly into deficit on farm production and trade in the 1960s and has since remained there.

The reason was that though Italian production rose fairly rapidly, domestic consumption rose still faster. At that time Italy was just emerging from poverty into the mass consumption society. Eating habits changed and local output could not keep up.

Table I : Trends in Community farm incomes

A the 1960s

Increases in farmers' incomes per head as % of increases in incomes per head in manufacturing* (1960=100)

Belgium	89.2 (1969)
France	103.5 (1968)
Germany	106.3 (1968)
Italy	123.6 (1969)

B the 1970s

Indices of real per capita net value added of agriculture at factor cost (average 1967-69=100) †

	1973	1979
Belgium	154.1	126.0
Britain	136.4	105.7
Denmark	126.9	116.8
France	168.0	152.7
Germany	123.5	104.0
Ireland	151.3	170.3
Italy	134.5	153.4
Netherlands	120.8	105.4
EEC 9	141.6	133.4

* Source: UN and ILO Yearbooks of National Accounts and Labour Statistics.
† Source: Agra-Europe March 7, 1980.

Table II : Trends in Community farm trade

Agricultural products (except fats and oils), tobacco and beverages.

Country or region	Exports/Imports % Intra-EEC 9		Extra-EEC 9	
	1958	1979	1958	1979
Belgium	62	81	15	54
Britain	14	50	15	39
Denmark	838	415	139	150
France	184	170	35	81
Germany	13	51	7	30
Ireland	631	251	27	183
Italy	185	55	82	44
Netherlands	565	228	66	63
EEC 9	—	—	26	54

Source: Eurostat, Monthly External Trade Bulletin, Special Number 1958-79.

Elsewhere, in the richer countries of the Community, the balance was weighted on the other side. Consumption of agricultural products grew proportionately at a slow pace than in Italy. This tendency of production to outstrip demand goes back to the immediate postwar years. The only difference is that there was a food shortage in Europe then, so that the buoyancy of output was a relief instead of the problem it has since become.

Today, consumption in the Community is almost static because of recession, full stomachs, and a stable and aging population. At the same time, production continues to grow at about 2 to 2½ per cent a year, equivalent to a doubling in output every 20 to 30 years.

The taproot of this disparity seems to be the massive postwar introduction of industrial methods and outlooks into what had been Europe's overwhelmingly peasant agriculture. The process began with mechanization but, from that base, biotechnology, the spread of modern methods of management and distribution and the slow increase in the average size of farms have all conduced to the steady growth of productivity.

High prices have added to the pressures, but they have not operated in a vacuum. Accordingly, the difficulty goes beyond stopping the CAP encouraging farmers, through high prices, to produce more. What is needed is to damp down the underlying buoyancy of output. That means depressing real prices and natural resources, such as the acreage sown or the numbers of cattle and fruit-trees.

An official German working group has estimated that in the Federal Republic even a reduction of prices in real terms of 2 per cent a year till 1982 would still leave production outpacing consumption by 1.3 per cent a year, with surpluses continuing to pile up.

Depressing the trend of output on this scale (and therefore farm incomes) when the general economy is already depressed is a difficult and politically perilous operation. Also it is likely to take effect only slowly. The probem is to squeeze the top quarter of richer Community farmers who produce some three-quarters of output without depressing still farther the low income of the long tail of peasants in the poorer regions.

This can be done, in theory and given time, among other ways by the taxes on high production (equivalent to price cuts for big producers) which the European Commission is proposing. Politically, however, farmers, large and small, tend to stick together, so that cuts in real prices will inevitably create political danger zones. Why else has President Giscard d'Estaing recently promised national subsidies of more than 4,000m francs (about $1,000m) and in the process violated the CAP? He needs the farm vote in what may prove the tough presidential elections in the spring.

Such pressures favour a reversion to uncoordinated nationalism in farm policies. But this too is likely to rebound, especially on those countries which now benefit most from the CAP. The main reason is that overproduction could, in the next two decades, gradually choke the channels of agricultural trade across frontiers in the Community.

Originally, far and away the biggest farm import markets were Britain and Germany. In 1958, each of them imported seven times the value of farm produce that it exported. Today, the proportion, again for each of them, is only two-to-one (Table II). Twenty years hence, at this rate, there could be little net trade left inside the Community. True, Italy has gone the other way, but would like to reverse the trend, and in any case its market only partly compensates.

The British openly make a policy of this trend. Governments, Labour and Conservative alike, have contended that Britain can and should aim at higher self-sufficiency whether the Community has surpluses or not. They have been subsidizing dairy products and sugar, the commodity most critically in surplus in the Community.

If this process continues, which is likely if policies revert to national capitals, the countries that have enjoyed trade surpluses in the Community would one day find themselves, as in 1958 but on a much higher scale, unable to sell—or only by subsidizing exports, at high financial and political cost to themselves and to their competitors, on the available world markets. Once that happens, a great deal more than the CAP is apt to break down in Europe. The Germans, at least, are unlikely to relish the prospect.

There is the germ of a deal here between the countries which want to limit their budget costs soon, like Germany and Britain, and the present beneficiaries of Community farm trade, who would be wise to keep their markets open for the long term. The only way to satisfy both will be to restrain surpluses over a period by reducing the real returns the larger farmers receive.

Putting this into practice could be made easier in the coming years by rising energy costs and constraints. These already seem to be somewhat damping world output so that the demand for some European produce may gradually increase.

But it is already late in the day to relate national ambitions in a coherent way, the short-term pressures on the farms encourage myopia and, given the strains which have been allowed to accumulate, any road to salvation is bound to be politically rough.

As so often before in Community history, the outlook depends on the acuteness of the crisis producing the political will to overcome it and avoid the worst. But in the past, problems in agriculture were largely left to growth and luck. Today, the luck has run out. Now, and in a sense for the first time, the sense for the first time, the political leaders have genuinely to formulate common agricultural policies.

Facts and figures

Budget problem threatens fulfilment of Reagan promises

"The proof of the pudding will be in the eating." Many Americans must be telling themselves this now that President Ronald Reagan is installed in the White House. In a recent interview with the *Wall Street Journal* he emphasized the need for fundamental change: "We have to put an end to the recent period of pessimism, stagnation, regulation and excessive taxation".

Now the time has come for ideas and electoral promises to be measured against harsh reality, the time for concrete action and more particularly its effect on the dollar and interest rates, the high levels of which are impinging on the economic policy of the four *Europa* countries.

The new President has no easy task on his hands. For all the optimism of business leaders who like the style of the new team and are banking on their success, the situation is serious. One of the most dashing and brilliant young men in the new Reagan Administration, Mr David Stockman, director of the Office of Management, has even spoken of an "economic Dunkirk" and did propose an emergency plan under which radical measures could have been introduced.

Other members, older and more experienced, such as Mr Donald Regan, the former chairman of Merrill Lynch who has become Treasury Secretary, and Mr Arthur Burns, do not share this view, because they are afraid of starting a panic.

Progressiveness and continuity seem to be the key words of their recommended strategy, which should make a contrast with Mr Carter's febrile changes of direction. This in itself will be a distinct improvement; no miracles, but consistent and prudent action to deal with the problems.

But it is the problem of the budget which is going to pose the biggest threat to the aims and electoral promises of the new team. The Conference Board has emphasized that the deficit for 1981 is likely to be $60,000m, and any compression of this figure will necessarily be more difficult if the proposed tax reductions have to be offset as well.

Already there is talk of putting off the tax measures until August. The Treasury will therefore continue to keep tight controls on the capital market and Mr Volcker, the custodian of the dollar, will maintain high rates, thus pushing up the exchange rate.

excellent ●●● poor ○
good ●● bad ○○
fairly good ● very bad ○○○
previous performance [ ]

	rate of growth	quality of growth: prices	quality of growth: unemployment	maintenance of growth: productive capacity	maintenance of growth: foreign trade	maintenance of growth: vulnerability to external factors
GERMANY	○ [○○]	● [●]	○ [○]	○ [○]	● [●]	○ [○]
FRANCE	○○ [○○]	○○ [○○]	○○ [○○]	○ [○]	○○ [○○]	● [●]
ITALY	○○ [○○]	○○○ [○○○]	○○ [○○○]	○○ [○○]	○○ [○○○]	○ [○]
BRITAIN	○○○ [○○○]	○ [○]	○○○ [○○○]	○○○ [○○○]	● [●]	●● [●●]

United States: business activity resilient

Growth rate: business activity is still showing remarkable resilience in the face of rising interest rates. In December a further increase of industrial output of 1 per cent was recorded. In the same month, however, retail sales fell by 1.3 per cent, the main culprit being car sales.

Prices: the increase in wholesale prices—based on the past three months then annualized—rose from 4.9 per cent in November to 8.3 per cent in December. Retail prices rose from 12.7 per cent to 13.1 per cent.

Unemployment: the unemployment rate expressed as a proportion of the working population, fell from 7.6 per cent in October to 7.5 per cent in November and 7.4 per cent in December, but the number of vacancies is also beginning to fall.

Foreign trade: the trade deficit, having shown a slight increase from $1,660m in September to $1,840m in October, improved to $1,640m in November, thanks largely to a big fall in motor and oil imports.

Monetary and financial influence: the relaxation in United States rates, which has brought prime rates down from the record level of 21.5 per cent to 20 per cent and then 19 per cent, has been called in question by the firm action of the monetary authorities.

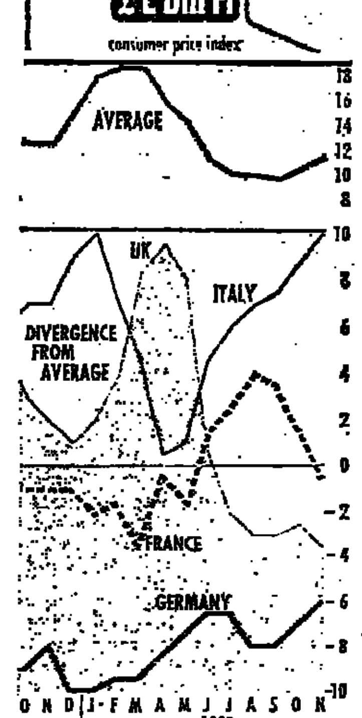
Japan: industrial output falls

Growth rate: industrial output fell by 1.1 per cent in November, but is still up over the past three months and 2.3 per cent above the 1979 level.

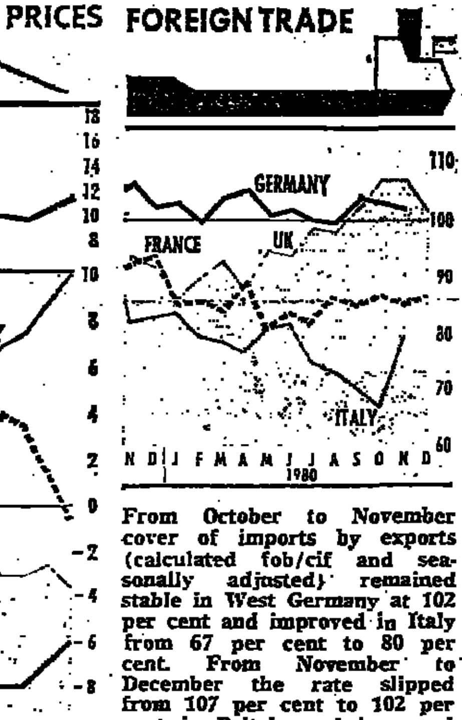
Prices: with the yen's rise, wholesale prices, annualized on the basis of developments in October, November and December, have fallen by 3 per cent.

Unemployment: the unemployment rate, calculated as a proportion of the working population and seasonally adjusted, was 2.3 per cent in November. (The Japanese rate is underestimated in comparison with the American and European rates.)

Foreign trade: the trade balance, seasonally adjusted and calculated on a fob/cif basis, which had shown a deficit of $548m in October, went back into the black in November to the tune of $292m in November and improved further to $1,480m in December.

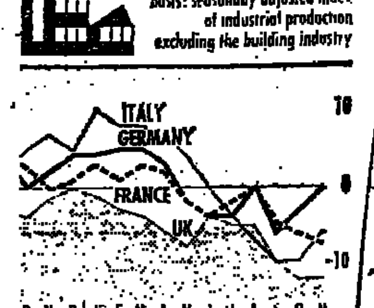


Between November and December the average inflation rate for the four *Europa* countries rose from 10.8 per cent to 11.6 per cent. The cause of this increase can be found in West Germany which recorded an increase from 3 per cent to 5.5 per cent, whereas there was no change in France (11 per cent), Britain (8 per cent) or Italy (21 per cent). These rates are based on the past three months. On the year-on-year reckoning they work out at 5.5 per cent for West Germany, 13.6 per cent for France, 15.1 per cent for Britain and 21.2 per cent for Italy.

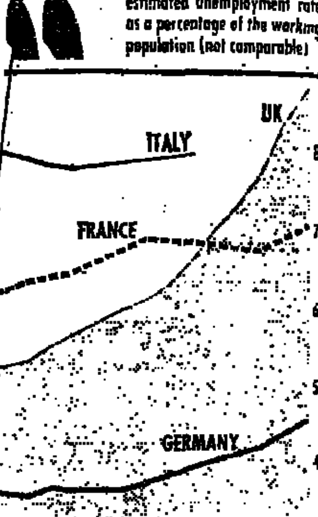


From October to November cover of imports by exports (calculated fob/cif and seasonally adjusted) remained stable in West Germany at 102 per cent and improved in Italy from 67 per cent to 80 per cent. From November to December the rate slipped from 107 per cent to 102 per cent in Britain and improved slightly in France from 85 per cent to 87 per cent.





On the basis of a calculation comparing September, October and November with the previous three months, industrial output has ceased to fall in West Germany (now level) but has continued to deteriorate in Italy (−6 per cent), France (−8 per cent) and especially in Britain (−12 per cent).



Between November and December the unemployment rate, expressed as a proportion of the working population and seasonally adjusted, spurted from 8.3 per cent to 8.75 per cent in Britain and showed appreciable increases in France (6.85 per cent to 7.05 per cent) and West Germany (4.3 per cent to 4.55 per cent). In Italy on the other hand it fell between the second and third quarters from 7.95 per cent to 7.6 per cent.

Consequently, the four *Europa* countries cannot expect the next few months to bring a fair wind from across the Atlantic to ease their own tasks. This is particularly true of West Germany, which is still in a particularly paradoxical and uncomfortable situation, with interest rates which are too low to attract capital (the immediate returns offered by the dollar outweighing economic considerations), but nevertheless high in relation to the inflation rate.

The West German monetary authorities therefore have no option but to accept the status quo with the discomfort of a weak Deutsche mark and the attendant risk of a surge in prices, about which they are now more worried than about industrial output, the deterioration in which seems to have been halted, as may be seen from our graph. According to Herr Helmut Geiger, president of the savings banks federation, "the present situation does not justify use of the term recession, given the continuing high level of investment".

Thus there is the prospect of adaptation which should enable West Germany to resume its position alongside Japan as a "strong" economy. However, this year rationalization will bring an increase in the unemployment rate which, according to the official forecasts, is destined to rise well above a million and only greater wage restraint will help to reduce it.

The potential influence of American policy options is not the same in the case of France, whose financial situation is comparatively healthy. Interest rates are high enough, when the "Barre" effect is taken into account as well, to attract capital (pre-electoral fluctuations apart) and the high American rates are less of a problem.

The economic results, on the other hand, have been mediocre if not frankly bad. The French authorities are fond of blaming outside factors when announcing successive sets of figures, but the true cause is to be found in France itself: high production costs, made all the worse by the strength of the franc, which are accelerating the loss of competiveness. This explains the poor export performance, the flood of imports, the decline in the business activity, the increase in unemployment, which is probably not fully reflected in the official statistics.

In the speeches he has been making as the French presidential elections approach M Raymond Barre has been taking stock of his own performance—not without some bitterness—and admits that he has not taken sufficiently tough action to defeat inflationary trends, for fear of increasing unemployment. Unfortunately, the result of his failure can now be seen in even longer dole queues.

Nevertheless, M François Ceyrac, president of the employers' organization (CNPF), while deploring this development, regards the Government's record as satisfactory and believes that French industry can meet the challenge of restoring its competitiveness.

It is true that austere government holds its own considerable dangers and can produce unexpected results when taken too far, too fast, witness the example of Britain and Mrs Thatcher's policies. There, the dollar and American interest rates are having only a limited influence compared with the stringent domestic policies which are progressively locking the country into a vicious circle.

The Government's objectives (except with prices and the trade balance) are actually receding as a result of the action it has taken in its relentless pursuit of them. For instance, recently published figures show that the target for the public spending borrowing requirement, which has already had to be increased substantially from the initial figure of £8,500m, is likely to be exceeded by a wide margin.

Another unfavourable development is reflected in the statistics on profits and incomes in 1980, which show that, contrary to the Government's strategy, the brunt of the crisis has been borne by companies rather than employees. (M Raymond Barre has been successful on this front in France.) Under such conditions, it is becoming difficult to put the public finances back on an even keel (the next budget is to be announced in March) and to restore companies' profitability. According to a Bank of England study, there has been a sharp deterioration in British industry's competitiveness.

The trend has been masked by the trade surplus, achieved thanks to North Sea oil, but also to the desperate efforts of manufacturers to export, at any price, products for which they can find no outlets in the flagging domestic market. Hence the rise in unemployment, which is reaching dangerous levels, as our graph shows.

For Italy, as for Britain, the influence of the new direction taken by American policy under the Reagan Administration will be less significant than that of the options selected and action taken at home. The key problem here is an enormous trade deficit, far greater than can be accounted for by oil alone. It is the consequence of overheating of the economy in recent months and a sharp loss of competitiveness caused by soaring costs (except for firms relying on the "black economy", which escape taxes and social contributions). Even though the current depression brought a slight fall in the deficit in November (see graph), it was 10 times greater in 1980 than in 1979.

Emphasizing this, Signor Enrico Manca, Minister for Foreign Trade, has announced that a conference is to be held to determine the course of action. Also, although the foreign currency reserves are still substantial, as Signor Rinaldo Ossola has pointed out, the Government has plans to borrow abroad on a large scale for 1981-83. None of this will save Italy from having to resign itself sooner or later to embarking on the difficult course of compressing industrial costs, after the example set by the other *Europa* countries and now the United States with its new policy.

Maurice Bommensath
economist with Cegos, management consultants, Paris

Strengthening investments in industrialized nations

'Gravitational effect' binds economies of rich countries to one another

The Third World countries in the ascendant and the Western industrialized nations in decline—such is the prevailing view of the world, the generally accepted belief. But is it realistic or merely wishful thinking? The pertinence of this question is revealed by an examination of the pattern of international investment.

Western investment in the Third World does admittedly seem to have grown in absolute terms, but much less in relative terms, in comparison with that which remains squarely in the established industrialized countries. In particular, the growing volume of investment between Western countries eventually sets up a "gravitational effect" which is specific to their regions and accentuates their economic superiority.

Statistical data can be optical illusions and they are to be treated with circumspection. Thus there are those who, relying on rather misleading figures, gloat over the "decline" of the Western nations economically, which is supposed to be where their main strength lies.

For instance, the proportion of the world's gross product accounted for by America's gnp, which was 50 per cent some 20 years ago, fell to about 30 per cent by 1980 and will be in the region of 20 per cent at the turn of the century, while the share of the European Economic Community, which was roughly 20 per cent at the beginning of the 1970s, is expected to fall to about 15 per cent by the year 2000.

However, if these figures point to a decline, other projections (also based on assumptions drawn from the seminal report by the Interfuturs group of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) indicate that the national income per head in the United States by the turn of the century will be $9,900 compared with $4,780 in 1970, and in Europe upwards of $8,000 against $2,450 in 1970. Compare these levels with the overall average for the Third World, which is expected to be no more than $900 per head."

It has now become established that there is no longer just one Third World, but several, since countries like Brazil, South Korea and Singapore are no longer "underdeveloped", but well advanced in the process of industrialization. European, American and Japanese investment has played a large part in their progress. Does this mean that the big industrialized countries are committing hara-kiri by creating competition for themselves, on the pretext of having at least a foothold in the newly-rich countries?

Although certain information drawn from particular examples may sometimes lead one to believe that this is generally true, and for all the wishes and intentions expressed by those who want to see the Third World catch up with the West, all the indications are that the economies of the industrialized countries spontaneously drew up their battle lines early in the 1970s, purely for their own defence. Since 1973 especially, the industrialized countries' reciprocal investment has been intensified at the expense of investment elsewhere. Directly or indirectly, these countries have the world's greatest financial resources at their disposal.

The mass represented by these resources obeys its own laws, exerting growing influence on the course taken by the world economy and the development of international balances of power. Whether this has been intentional or not, the effect is the same.

During the period of rapid economic development since the Second World War, there have been three phases in the evolving pattern of international investment, each characterized by distinct conditions.

1. Until 1960 firms in the industrialized countries showed a marked preference for investing in the developing countries and the former white dominions of the British Empire (Canada, South Africa, Australia). Their aim was to gain control of extraction and production of mineral and agricultural raw materials. Only 22 per cent of all American foreign-based industrial assets in 1960 were in Europe and Japan, compared with almost 40 per cent in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa taken together, and also nearly 40 per cent in the developing countries. The distribution was very much the same in the case of Britain, and similar in that of West Germany, although already with rather more emphasis on Europe.

2. From 1960 to the beginning of the "crisis" in the 1970s, there was a change of direction towards Europe and manufacturing industry. Whereas before 1960 Europe had accounted for less than a fifth of American firms' annual foreign investment, it attracted about a third from the beginning of the 1960s and, in manufacturing industry, the proportion rose to a half from 1966 and 58 per cent from 1970.

West Germany and Britain also concentrated their assets within the EEC. Having represented little more than a third of American and half of British assets before 1960, manufacturing industry accounted for more than 40 per cent of the United States foreign investment, 46 per cent of Britain's and 73 per cent of West Germany's by 1973.

3. Since 1973, the United States has reemerged as a host country for investment, and manufacturing industry in Europe has more or less maintained its ability to attract investors, but the "redeployment" towards the developing countries has been severely limited. The twofold monetary and energy crisis, the dollar's decline and the increased political insecurity in the Third World have caused investment to be channelled back towards the United States.

Another development has been an increase in the geographical spread of countries investing in the United States. Twenty years ago three groups of countries owned almost all foreign assets (96 per cent) in the United States: Britain (32.5 per cent), continental Europe (36.5 per cent) and Canada (27 per cent). By the end of 1978 Europe's share had risen to 50 per cent, with firms from The Netherlands (24 per cent) and West Germany (8 per cent) giving the lead, but also with contributions from Switzerland, France, Belgium, Italy and Scandinavia whose investment in the past had been on a negligible scale.

Japan was another significant contributor with 7 per cent, while Britain's share had fallen to 18 per cent. Contrary to what might have been expected to follow upon the crisis and the Third World's efforts to industrialize, therefore, the various industrialized countries have simultaneously concentrated their investments and redistributed their assets among themselves.

What is more, a new phenomenon has emerged. The tendancy of the industrialized countries' currents of investment to polarize has been heightened by the gravitational effect of the richest countries' international investment, which is becoming more pronounced. In an austere but interesting study published by the Centre d'études prospectives et d'informations internationales,



Robin Laurance

Dominique Laubier and Alain Richemond, when examining the "interpretation of capital and worldwide industrial competition", have built up a body of data which they have used to identify a number of characteristic features of the way in which this new phenomenon works.

Taking the example of bilateral relations between the United States and West Germany, they show that in 1976 West Germany invested some $600m in the United States and the United States invested $480m in West Germany. They then go on to examine "what it is that governs the movement of reciprocal investment between these two countries."

"In order of account for the occurrence of a gravitational effect, that is a mutual attraction between two bodies represented by the economic weight of the countries concerned, it is necessary to show that the differences in relative costs are becoming smaller and smaller, and are therefore of less and less importance in the mechanisms of international investment, while at the same time the attraction of buoyant markets, which often enjoy considerable protection, is making it more and more necessary to set up production facilities abroad", M Richemond writes.

Worldwide competition tends to concentrate on a limited number of advanced markets, access to which is not always easy for exporters. Investment abroad follows naturally upon an increase in exports, so that there would seem to be a direct relationship between an increase in international investment and an increase in reciprocal investment.

The purpose of investment between rich countries is to limit companies' risks across the board and this is a factor making for its accelerated development. Setting up production facilities abroad has a stabilizing effect, securing an average level of profits whatever the differences in economic conditions between countries, while at the same time enabling the companies concerned to avoid losing ground in strategic markets.

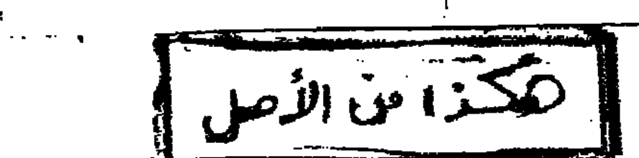
Even when local conditions deteriorate in a given country, external factors still make it worth while maintaining a presence there. For instance, an American firm that has set up "profit centres" in Europe which are independent of the parent company not only earns operating profits which can iron out economic and monetary fluctuations on either side of the Atlantic, but also has appreciating capital assets. It is therefore in a position to absorb a long-term deterioration in local relative costs, since any erosion of its trading profits is offset by the rising value of its assets.

Will this last? For instance, would not the combination of a sharp rise in the dollar's exchange rate and a spectacular economic slump in Europe bring about a rapid change in these conditions? How long will it take the "newly industrialized countries" to break into the privileged inner circle?

The first step for them is undoubtedly to exploit their domestic or regional markets more fully, even if this means restraining their aspirations for industrial exports to some extent which would simultaneously serve the interests of their peoples and suit the Western countries. In Western industry about 20 per cent of gross fixed capital formation is under foreign control and roughly 25 per cent of domestic industrial demand is imported. The extent of penetration is still greater in highly internationalized sectors such as production of electrical and electronic equipment, chemical engineering and the motor industry.

Thus a whole swathe of the world economy, which enjoys virtual autonomy since it operates in a closed circuit and obeys its own laws, is making for greater interaction and interdependence between the industrialized countries. There is a correlation between the compass of this circuit and the economic growth of the countries within it. So the privileged inner circle of wealth is strengthened, giving an international dimension to the old saying that "money goes to money".

Jacqueline Grapin



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How the European Community is moving to meet the dangers of deepening recession

Industrial planning still a national preserve

Europe does not have an industrial policy—not, that is, in the sense of the term "policy" as applied to agriculture. It has neither specific machinery nor funds earmarked for financing projects on a Community-wide scale. Planning remains the exclusive preserve of manufacturers or national authorities.

Ideas of launching Community programmes—such as the construction of a European aeroplane as proposed by the Commission in the early 1970s—are in abeyance. Why then should recent events have made the Community appear to be a decision-making centre and why should Viscount Davignon, the commissioner responsible for industrial affairs, be considered to have one of the most important portfolios?

The steel crisis has played an important part in the creation of this impression. The steel industry falls within the remit of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), which was set up in 1951. With the enthusiasm aroused by the beginnings of European integration and Franco-German reconciliation, the climate was favourable to the establishment of an ECSC High Authority (whose responsibilities have since been taken over by the Commission) vested with "supranational powers".

These powers were exercised to the full last October, when Brussels imposed production quotas on companies. All the member states, except West Germany, had decided to call in the Community authorities, so powerless had they felt to cope with the steel crisis. Thus the Commission was entrusted with a watchdog role, in that it was given the task of monitoring output figures.

With the other industries which have come in for attention at Community level, it has again been a case of turning to the EEC in an effort to overcome difficulties which individual countries are unable to solve. For instance, the Commission was given the task of negotiating voluntary limitation agreements with the textile-exporting countries. It approved the agreement among producers of synthetic fibres, although it clearly contravened the Community rules on competition (the legislation on restrictive practices). Perhaps the next job it is given will be to curb Japanese car sales in the Community.

The absence of a European industrial policy worthy of the name is clearly illustrated by the case of shipbuilding. Structural reorganization in this industry has taken place without any arrangements for coordination between countries, apart from the Commission having been given the special task of drawing up half-yearly reports on the state of shipbuilding, and provision for contributions from the Community budget towards the costs of retraining programmes.

The Commission is willing to accept this role as watchdog (or as alibi in some cases), but it does not want to limit its activities to the negative aspects. Aware that Brussels is in no position to impose policy on industrialists, Viscount Davignon believes that the Community can play a more dynamic role in tripartite cooperation involving national governments, industry and the Commission.

According to him, the Commission's contribution is essential to any scheme for the modernization of a branch of industry. "I am convinced that a rationalization programme cannot be planned at national level because of the difficulty at that level of judging the degree of competitiveness to be attained", he said.

Viscount Davignon has noticed a marked increase recently in interest in the possibilities for this type of cooperation, and the "communitization" of certain crisis-ridden sectors has had the effect of increasing the Commission's influence. "If this trend is maintained", he said, "the environment necessary for real industrial cooperation in Europe could be created."

Creating the environment is all-important to Viscount Davignon, who clearly intends to play a real role—discreet perhaps and sometimes in the wings—in the development of European industry. "The problems are too complex", he said, "for Brussels to be able to decide what should be done." He is an optimist and is hopeful that the Commission will gain some ground. Gone are the days when use of the gunboat could be contemplated. Now it has to be persuasion.

Marcel Scotto

Steel succeeding on last throw of die

On October 30 last year, after lengthy equivocation arising largely out of West Germany's *reluctance, the Council of* Ministers gave the Commission of the European Communities authority to declare a "state of manifest crisis", and accordingly to use its powers under the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) treaty to apply quota restrictions to steel production.

The scheme, which had the merit of simplicity, was to impose discipline on producers who were no longer prepared to accept it voluntarily and thereby to reestablish a better balance between supply and demand, without which the fall in prices could not be halted. In the nine capitals, but especially in Bonn, the reaction was one of relief, but not without a certain amount of anxiety.

There was certainly relief that the Community had at last taken a quick decision when faced with the serious further decline in the steel industry and the disagreement among its members. It was universally acknowledged that action was needed to end the chaos and save the ECSC from disruption.

But there was also anxiety because this first recourse to article 58 of the ECSC treaty was regarded as the last throw of the die. In the past liberalism and caution had prevailed and the governments of the Nine had never before resorted to these powers. In West Germany the government, employers and unions looked with equal antipathy and misgivings on this abandonment, *however temporary, of the laws* of market forces, this concession to dirigism, to the bureaucratic whim of the Commission.

The other governments were generally more favourable to the project, but they were well aware that if it failed, or even if it only half succeeded, the result would be catastrophic not only for the steel industry but also for the Community's image and its capacity for effective intervention to stem a crisis in any sector of industry.

The result has not been a failure, far from it. Three months after the decision was taken, it is possible to make an initial assessment. The view in Brussels is that the results have been excellent. "We have managed to arrest the dramatic fall in prices, which have hardened despite the continuing sluggishness of the market. Orders booked in January were at higher prices than in *October. There has been no* speculation against our system", observes Viscount Etienne Davignon, the member of the Commission responsible for industrial policy.

The system was set up discreetly last November. Promoted to its leading role under the terms of article 58, the Commission established frank, and on the whole trustful, relations with the industry. Some producers, particularly in West Germany, had initially considered that the quotas allocated to them were unfair. "We received 150 requests for revision of quotas. All the applications were given careful consideration and, although some companies were not fully satisfied with the outcome of our examinations, there have not been any serious disputes. The Court of Justice has most certainly not been submerged with cases", is the rather satisfied comment from Brussels.

So much for the allocation of quotas. The next stage—putting the scheme into practice—has been managed without great difficulties. Inspections at steelworks (with assistance from production engineers "on loan" from the trade) have passed off smoothly. Computer-aided collation of data has worked perfectly, to widespread surprise. In short, the Commission has displayed more professionalism than had been expected.

In West Germany, where the Government and the industry have forgotten their initial mis*givings and played* the game absolutely straight, people agree that order has been restored after last autumn's morale-sapping chaos. They admit that the improvement in the situation is not attributable to a more favourable economic climate, but to the quota system based on article 58 and, one thing leading to another, to the end of bearish speculation.

Does this mean that the West Germans have been won over to article 58 and compulsory quotas? Absolutely not, but officialdom and the trade have been prepared to make the best of a bad job, all the more so in that there have been no major snags. Although they cannot admit to having been wrong, they point out: "Given the violence of the storm that hit us in the autumn, something had to be done. In our opinion the solution chosen, article 58, was probably the least judicious, but the most important *thing was obviously not to sit* on our hands."

There has certainly been no change in doctrine. The criticisms made in October by Herr Lambsdorf, Minister for Economic Affairs, against the declaration of a state of manifest crisis are still regarded as valid, but the motive in reiterating them is not to express any hostile intent, but to ensure that they remain on record for a future date.

Two points are emphasized. First, the compulsory quotas system causes unnecessary harm to the most efficient steelmakers, obliging them to produce less than they would wish even though they have markets—inside or outside the EEC—where they could sell more than their allocated quotas. These companies are suffering a loss of trade in the name of Community solidarity and it would be unhealthy for such a situation to continue for long. Second, compulsory output quotas eliminate or at least mitigate the effects of competition within the EEC and this gives protection to the weakest groups, which are therefore encouraged to postpone their structural reorganization programmes.

The West Germans are insistent on the need for rationalization of production facilities the length and breadth of the EEC. They have been practising what they preach and have no intention of changing course. Hesch is on the point of announcing a modernization programme which will involve at least 5,000 redundancies. They also think that it is time that their partners—meaning Italy, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom—stopped subsidizing production plants which can never be made competitive again. This is one of their familiar themes on the subject of aid policy.

Brussels is happy to interpret the moderate tone of West German comments as grudging acceptance. "It is clear that the Germans do not like the idea of compulsory quotas. It was very painful for them to agree to this course. But from here it is very clear that the German steelmakers, having seen how things have worked out for them in practice, are no longer hostile to article 58. They are not campaigning against this present experience", Viscount Davignon observes.

On the whole, then, the emergency measures introduced last autumn have had a good reception, even in West Germany. But this holds only in so far as it is understood that they will be temporary and will end on June 30 1981 according to schedule.

On this point the West Germans are categorical and unanimous, drawing attention to the formal commitments given by the Commission. Here again, they refer to the most efficient producers (including the majority of West German producers, naturally), who would not tolerate the prospect of having their own security put at risk because they had to carry on propping up lame ducks.

Moreover, the anarchy unleashed by the abrupt fall in orders during the summer of 1980 has now been eliminated and there is no longer any reason to consider the steel industry to be in a state of manifest crisis.

In Düsseldorf it is emphasized that, although the state of the industry is not very encouraging, it is certainly not catastrophic. According to the forecasts, steel consumption in the EEC will fall by 6 per cent in 1981 compared with last year and by only 2 per cent to 3 per cent in West Germany.

"This has been a passing difficulty", it is claimed, "and now that they have had a breathing space, the steelmakers in the Community should be able to make their own arrangements to deal with such eventualities". And no one, including the West Germans, denies that the steel industry can get through these lean times without certain rules, some form of discipline regulating production. The West Germans want such "cartel arrangements" to revert from being public to private, as they were before last summer.

The Commission shares this point of view. "The compulsory quota system is not a formula which was made to last; responsibility for market organization is too heavily concentrated on the Commission. We are very actively engaged in formulating a new voluntary emergency plan. This work will have to be completed before the end of April if we are to avoid a renewal of speculation", Viscount Davignon observes.

Philippe Lemaître

Pandora's box closed to car makers

In 1985, the EEC will be a net importer of cars, to the extent of about 600,000 cars of all kinds. However, when recently Viscount Etienne Davignon, the EEC's able Commissioner for Industry and Energy, was asked to offer three concrete solutions for the European car industry to be put into effect immediately, he replied: "I am no fairy godmother, granting your protégé's three wishes".

Already in 1974 the European Commission had published a document which stated that, after the first oil crisis, the car industry would be the worst hit.

The news was received—at least by the assault sociologists specializing in Marx's (and Antonioni's) theories on alienation—with open satisfaction. At last, exclaimed the prophets, who were making quite a good living denouncing the evils of the capitalistic industrial society based on car production, the moment had apparently come to set up the "new development model".

No more pollution-spreading private cars, therefore, but collective trains and buses—perhaps even perfumed ones, into the bargain. But the new development model for the car industry, and later the steel industry and many others, arrived together with hundreds of *thousands of unemployed* workers, low investment, a freeze on the launch of new types of cars, and higher transport costs. Nor were the buses of the alternative society built in compensation. The failure of "diversification", carried out under pressure from certain industrial and intellectual quarters in a number of car firms, was symbolic.

The Japanese, on the other hand, free from sociological complexes, modernized their plant, attacked foreign markets and increased their exports tenfold. But they had an advantage: they had not read the essays of Galbraith, and had ignored the funereal forecasts for the future of the car.

Six years went by: another oil crisis and further Japanese penetration of car markets, now also by "joint ventures" with British Leyland and Alfa Romeo.

"We don't want to take over from the industrialists", Viscount Davignon says, adding: "I have no desire at all to create a finance fund for the car industry". And he is right, because there is no money. Viscount Davignon is the most able man in Brussels, but there is a limit to what even he can do.

The EEC has an agricultural policy (which absorbs 70 per cent of its 25,000,000m lire budget) and is a customs union. It was created with idealistic aspirations which in hard fact boiled down to support for the farmers—especially the French—and for German industry, with benefits all round. For the rest, the EEC has remained an empty Pandora's box. All the wishes in the world can be put into it, but out of it you can only get studies and reports, recommendations, forecasts, and—if you are lucky—perhaps a loan.

Europe's industrialists, especially in the car industry, are only now realizing that the car policy is still only an aspiration; apart from anything else, there is not the money for it. Loans are available for steel, but only indirectly for the car industry, and—as Viscount Davignon again says—only up to 5 per cent of all the investments carried out by European firms, taking into account subsidies from the Iron and Steel Community, the Regional and Social Funds, and the European Investment Bank.

The car industry has few friends in Brussels. There is Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the Commissioner for External Relations, who has the backing of a few members of the European Commission, and who—for example—is loud in support of a "global commercial relationship" between Europe and Japan. In other words, open doors for Japanese cars to enter all the EEC countries, in return for commercial concessions by the Japanese on other European products. Except that one can be quite sure that the cars made in Japan would arrive, even in France and Italy (where Japanese car imports are at present restricted to a few thousand a year) whereas it is by no means certain that European goods would arrive, in the same quantities, for sale in Japan.

The EEC—according to Viscount Davignon—is trying to find "the most favourable climate for the car industry". It advises doubling expenditure on research, and promises to smile favourably on joint cooperation agreements (even with firms outside Europe). However, stringent checks on national aid to Euorpean car firms are threatened, with the added threat of sanctions, whereas everyone knows that, simply by manipulating the rate of exchange of the yen, Japan can reduce the selling price of its cars in Europe by 25 per cent.

The communist member of the Eurpean Parliament, Signor Bonacini, who is reporter on the car crisis to the European Parliament, has even aired the possibility of limiting imports of Japanese cars into Europe, if some satisfactory form of self-restraint is not arrived at.

To understand why it is impossible for the EEC to give any concrete help to the European car industry (despite the recent pilgrimages of the leaders of the manufacturers' association to the Berlaymont Building) it is necessary to return to the imbalances in the Community's budget. If European agriculture, which is not in the throes of any particular crisis, needs modernizing, or its structure strengthening, there is the guidance section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, which promptly pays out a few million million lire every year, simply on presentation of the demands for payment.

If the car industry needs—as unquestionably it does need—a few dozen million million lire for modernization (America will be investing $15,500m every year up till 1985) it can ask its shareholders for the money as risk capital, or ask the banks, or issue debentures—all operations in which the EEC can make no special contribution.

There are people who always expect help from outside, or from the Community—both politically, and at industrial level.

This is the case with those producers who ask Brussels for solutions, which Brussels cannot provide, to problems that are often of their own making. Fortunately, most European car manufacturers are not so ingenuous: many Italian, French and German firms, individually or jointly, have investment plans and new car projects for the near future. Support from the EEC does have a place in their planning, but more as a social and political framework within which to work, than as a solution in itself.

European industrial leaders and their labour forces are in no way inferior to their American or Japanese counterparts, but they operate in a different social context. For example, in Japan, trade union problems, social security costs, hours lost through strikes, and the burden of a welfare state influence the level of technology, production and large-scale investment far less than they do in Europe.

The car crisis is the crisis of post-industrial society. Will robots à la Karel Capek perhaps come to Europe's help, to improve the situation? (In Japan, more than half the robots in operation in the whole world are employed in the car industry.) Perhaps, but the forecast up to 1985 is not encouraging. Beyond 1985 even the old prophets of the alternative society cannot see—the same prophets who now drive around in Toyotas. The only "model" they have changed is their car.

Renato Proni

Vital to protect textiles

Within the framework of Gatt the Multifibre Agreement (MFA) regulates trade in the textiles and clothing sector between the industrialized and the developing countries. The agreement was last renewed in 1977, and is to expire at the end of this year. In the next few months, therefore, negotiations will take place for the renewal of the MFA.

The provisions of that agreement have already had, and will continue to have, an important bearing on the way industry in this sector will develop in the EEC countries, and especially in Italy which is a large producer and exporter of textiles and clothing.

The total number of people employed in the EEC in the production of textiles and clothing was estimated at the end of 1979 as about four million, and this fell in the second half of the 1970s by about 150,000 people every year. In Italy, at the end of 1979, the number of people employed in the industry (including those employed in small businesses, with less than 20 employees) was estimated as 1,200,000, that is 30 per cent of the number of people similarly *employed* in the entire Community.

In recent years the rate of import penetration—that is the percentage of total EEC consumption which imports from outside the EEC represent—shows a trend that is worrying for the Community. From 1977 to 1979 the Community's imports rose from 10,200,000m lire to 13,700,000m lire, while exports increased from 8,700,000m lire to 9,900,000m lire. The deficit in the balance of trade of the Community as a whole in textiles and clothing therefore increased considerably, rising from 1,500,000m lire in 1977 to 3,800,000m lire in 1979. It is estimated that in 1980 the deficit will be close on 7,000,000m lire, and that imports from countries outside the Community will have risen to about 40 per cent of consumption.

It seems obvious that, in a period in which various factors (especially the increase in the cost of energy) will cause a slowing in the rate of increase of the gross national products of the industrialized countries, with a consequent increase in the social problems related to unemployment, the EEC authorities will have to approach the renewal of the MFA with clear ideas, and a great deal of firmness and determination.

Italy and the Italian textile manufacturers have always maintained an attitude in favour of absolute freedom in international trade, and in my view this philosophy will continue. However, supporting free trade cannot mean a further willingness to lose market shares and, in the extreme, to suffer losses of sales to countries whose competition is based on low wage levels. This would have grave consequences for Italy in terms of unemployment and its effects on society.

For Italy, even more than for the other members of the Community, the textile and clothing sector is a priority area of prime economic and social interest. Its protection against an excessive increase in the EEC's imports from other countries is indispensable, not least to protect what is the most important market for Italian exports of textiles and clothing, seeing that the EEC today absorbs about two thirds of Italian exports in this sector.

For there to be balanced growth in the textile sector in Italy Italian industry needs to continue its international business, which is responsible for exports of about 30 per cent of Italian production, contributing a surplus of more than 4,500,000m lire to the Italian trade balance. Nor should it be forgotten that exports of textiles and clothing have a high value added content, and that the energy consumption per employee in the textiles and clothing industry is about half that of the average per employee in Italian manufacturing industry as a whole.

When renewing the MFA, account must be taken of the changed conditions, compared with the situation when the agreement was signed in 1973; new relationships must be established with the other two main industrialized partners (the United States and Japan), with better regulation also of trade between the three blocks, and *not* only with the developing countries.

In short, the Community must stabilize the degree of penetration of its own markets by imports from outside, and put pressure on the United States and Japan (countries in which import penetration is much lower) to contribute, to a greater extent than in the past, and through their own imports, to the growth of the developing countries. With regard to the United States in particular, it is hoped that there will be a reduction in *American customs duties*—which are more sharply protectionist and much higher than those of the Community—accompanied by the elimination of such artificial advantages as the specially favourable oil price.

The Community, for its part, must be able to fix an overall maximum for the imports of each of the sensitive products coming from countries with low wage levels. Annual variations in these imports must be correlated to the growth of consumption, to avoid further increases in the degree of import penetration, which would be dangerous for the equilibrium of the textiles and clothing sector in Europe, and in Italy in particular. *The Italian* textiles and clothing industry is confident that the Community will be able to bring a new sense of realism and firmness to the negotiations that will lead to the renewal of the MFA.

Pietro Marzotto

Germany and the Free Democrats

Election has not changed policy on Europe

The result of the German parliamentary elections on October 5, 1980, has not changed Bonn's policy on Europe. Those who feared—or hoped—that the greater strength of the Free Democrats in their coalition with the Social Democrats might result in a change of emphasis in the federal Government's European policy, even a loosening of the close ties with France, will soon find how wrong they were. For FDP leader Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Herr Helmut Schmidt (SPD), the federal Chancellor, see eye to eye on Europe.

This was evident from the government statement Chancellor Schmidt made on November 24 with his coalition partner's agreement, which included two fundamental assertions: the maintenance and development of the European Community continues to be one of the priorities of West German policy; the federal Government fully endorses President Giscard d'Estaing's belief in the continuation of Franco-German cooperation.

Quoting the French President, Herr Schmidt agreed that this cooperation represented an irreplaceable contribution to Europe's progress and stability. The Chancellor also said that the goal of a European Union must not be forgotten, a point amplified by Herr Genscher later, thus proving that the Free Democrats, far from applying the brakes, are a driving force in the European policy.

The federal Foreign Minister's proposal at the "Twelfth Night conference" the FDP traditionally hold in Stuttgart, that a "visible step forward" should at last be taken with the signing of a treaty on the European Union, was meant seriously. In Herr Genscher's view the debate on this treaty could in itself lead to ideas assuming more definite shape and so to a wider European general agreement. Rather than awaiting the outcome of possibly very protracted treaty negotiations, he thus sees profit to be gained from the preparatory discussions.

For Herr Genscher the goals of a European Union are the development of a consistent European foreign policy, an extension of Community policies in line with the Rome and Paris treaties; coordination of security policy, closer cooperation in the cultural sector and the harmonization of legislation, all of which will entail the institutionalization of such bodies as the European Council of the heads of state or government, for which the treaties at present make no provision.

Some foreign newspapers reacted cynically to Herr Genscher's statement, claiming that the Community had far more practical problems to contend with at the moment than the idea of a European Union, which has been mooted for some considerable time but has never been translated into reality.

The federal Foreign Minister is not, of course, overlooking the present controversial issues, principal among them being the agricultural policy, which Chancellor Schmidt described in his government statement as being in urgent need of reform to bring it back into line with free market principles. He is convinced that more stringent import restrictions and aggressive export promotion will not solve the problem of agricultural surpluses.

There will be some hard fighting over this in the Community in the near future, a foretaste being provided by the dispute over the Community budget, which Herr Genscher feels should not be seen as a struggle for power between two Community institutions. It is crucial, particularly in view of the more difficult world political situation—and on this Chancellor Schmidt and Herr Genscher are in complete agreement—that European policy should not become bogged down in debates on agriculture and the budget and so paralyse the Community.

As the federal Government sees it, new political impulses are needed, aimed not least at the Soviet Union, where, with an eye on the Soviet Communist Party conference at the end of this month, the political course for the next few years is now being set. Herr Genscher is very much afraid the Soviet leaders might gain the impression that Western Europe is withdrawing increasingly into itself and neglecting the bond with its American allies.

This could lead to disastrous errors in the assessment of the situation and have ominous political consequences. Hence his recent renewed emphasis on the need for close cooperation between Europe and America, describing it as essential for the West to adopt an unambiguous position as a basis for satisfactory dealings with the Soviet Union—at the negotiations on disarmament and arms controls, for example.

Cooperation with France plays a fundamental role in this concept. The idea that Herr Genscher's success in the elections might cause some deterioration in Franco-German relations is anachronistic in view of the recent slight cooling of the relationship between President Giscard d'Estaing and Chancellor Schmidt.

The importance of outward appearances, such as the frequency of top-level telephone calls, should not be overestimated: the Chancellor has been deeply involved in forming the coalition and Government in recent months, and the French President has to concentrate on what is for him a decisive election campaign.

There is also a political motive for this aloofness. Since last summer, and particularly since the danger of Soviet military intervention in Poland became acute, President Giscard's policy towards the Eastern block has hardened considerably, while Chancellor Schmidt would like to save what he can of East-West cooperation. Nor should the special position of Germany and of Berlin, both divided, be overlooked.

These subtle changes of view have had no effect on the close relationship between the two foreign ministers. Thus, at their most recent talks in Bonn in late November, Herr Genscher and M François Poncet achieved a high level of agreement on bilateral, European and world questions, and there were no differences in their assessment of the Polish situation. For the German Foreign Minister this is extremely important—not least for his vision of a united West aware of its strength.

There is another factor, which is often disregarded outside West Germany: in its desire for the continued development of the European Community and of Franco-German friendship, the SPD-FDP coalition in Bonn can count on the parliamentary opposition not to cause any difficulties. On the contrary, the Christian Democrats are urging the Government on. When they criticize the Chancellor, it is because they feel he is not doing enough for European integration.

The worst that can happen is for Franco-German links to be subjected to a critical appraisal when the federal Government might be accused, in the Opposition's view, of neglecting the Atlantic Alliance. In recent weeks Herr Genscher has helped to restore harmony in this respect by commending the determination of the French leadership to maintain security and cooperate with the United States.

Practice does not always match theory, and West German policy will not run as smoothly in the coming months as Herr Schmidt in his government statement and Herr Genscher at the "Twelfth Night conference" would have us believe. But there is a determination in Bonn to pursue a productive policy on Europe, security and the alliance. The other partners should follow suit.

Bernt Conrad





Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher (left) and Herr Helmut Schmidt in earnest conversation.

'Cultural Europe'

Sorry tale of the fortunes of the foundation

The fortunes of the proposed European Cultural Foundation† make a sorry tale of confusion and intrigue, thanks largely to the behaviour of the French Government. Towards the end of 1974 the Nine called upon Mr Tindemans, then Belgian Prime Minister, to prepare a report on "European union" and he delivered his work a year later. His colleagues proceeded to bury his ideas, but some vestiges of chapter IV, "A citizen's Europe", survived, including the proposed formation of a European Cultural Foundation to be financed by the member states, Community funds and private gifts.

Did not the Treaty of Rome lay the "foundations for a steadily closer union between the peoples of Europe" and did it not (in article 235) contain authority for any action aimed at this objective which was decided upon unanimously? Well, almost a quarter of a century later, "cultural Europe" is still only a plan. Mr Tindemans wrote of the foundation that "its object will be to promote ... anything which could help towards greater understanding among our peoples by placing the emphasis on human contact" and "to enhance Europe's influence abroad". This proposal was adopted in 1977, at the European summit held in Rome, and a working party was set up to draft the foundation's constitution.

French civilization is both original and universal but, in a world in which the laws of the jungle and numerical strength prevail, it can survive only by making a constant effort of the will. English has far outstripped French as the international working language and is gaining ground by the day; tomorrow, Spanish will have to be reckoned with. In short, France has a battle on its hands if it is to survive culturally, and if it succumbs culturally it will be eclipsed politically.

The French Government is well aware of this and allocates almost half of the Ministry of Foreign affairs budget to cultural relations. It has taken great strength from the European Community in this life or death struggle. To be worthy of its name, the Community is duty bound to nurture the tree of its diverse cultures. French culture is a vigorous branch on this tree, stretching beyond French borders and casting its pollen on non-Francophone Europe.

French is the only language to enjoy official status in three member states. This is a privilege inherited from history and the French should feel no embarrassment about it—none of the other nations resents it. It was consolidated by the role played by France in the early days of the Community, as a result of which French now enjoys pride of place in the administration of the Ten, although here again English is gaining ground.

Since a cultural institution is by definition highly sensitive to its environment, it is important for France that Paris should be the seat of the foundation. This was a point on which President Giscard d'Estaing was prepared to do battle, and he won the day at the European summit held in Copenhagen on April 8, 1978, with ease apparently.

Paris's own prestige, its cosmopolitan flavour and its standing in international cultural life on the strength of which it is already the home of Unesco were arguments in it favour. It was announced after the same summit that the Nine had agreed on the "structural and operational framework" of the foundation. The Paris municipal authorities offered to accommodate the foundation in a newly renovated building, the Hôtel de Coulanges, in the Marais, a *quartier* steeped in cultural heritage.

At this stage everything became bogged down. Discussion of the final paragraphs of the constitution dragged on; no progress has been made since the beginning of 1979. Losing patience, the European Movement spent a few days collecting the signatures of about 30 leading figures (including two Nobel Prize winners and 15 members of the Institut de France)* and delivered a petition to the authorities. It got an evasive acknowledgment in reply.

At the European Council meeting on December 16, 1980, the outgoing president, following the practice which has become customary at the end of a term of office, invited comments on uncompleted business. When the European Cultural Foundation came up, all eyes turned towards the French representative. He said nothing. Next business.

What has happened? No one is prepared to give a straight answer. Officially, a few paragraphs of the constitution remain in dispute. The Danes are said to have a few legal reservations. The distribution of seats on the board has not been finalized. It is even suggested—although scarcely credible—that France wants the member states' financial support to be confined to a single initial endowment whereas the other countries prefer annual contributions. These matters would pose no insurmountable problems for those who wanted to solve them, but it would seem that the will is no longer there.

Some people suppose that the scheme is being blocked by a handful of uncompromisingly anti-EEC civil servants who have caused consternation in the Elysée Palace with dire warnings of the wrath of Mr Debré (who has actually had nothing to say on the subject) at the extension of the Community's powers. However, the principle of the matter has been settled and it has been established for the past two years that the foundation will be set up by inter-governmental agreement and not by any enlargement of the Commission's powers.

Another interpretation of the delay is that it is a tactical ploy to keep the foundation in reserve for whenever the really important negotiations get under way on the situation of the headquarters of the various Community institutions. France wants Strasbourg to be made the permanent seat of the European Parliament. Is the intention to keep the foundation as a bargaining counter? If so, such a manoeuvre would not only be highly reprehensible but also wholly ill conceived since the foundation would be a good deal more valuable if it were established in its home than it is at present, merely pencilled in on paper.

The third explanation is almost too unworthy to mention, but it is nevertheless the one which tallies most closely with the chronology of events: since the Mayor of Paris has offered the Hotel de Coulanges, would not acceptance elevate M Chirac to a position of eminence in the European cultural hierarchy?

To borrow the phrase applied to various attacks perpetrated in pursuit of obscure (and sometimes less than honourable) causes, no one has "claimed responsibility" for sabotaging the European Cultural Foundation, but someone has.

A certain amount of self-interested murmuring is already audible: if the French really no longer want this foundation, others are prepared to revive the project to their own benefit. Florence, Aachen, Bruges or even London are potential candidates. Whether through indecision or fickleness, France could be missing another opportunity.

Maurice Delarue

† *The proposed foundation should not be confused with an existing international non-governmental organization of the same name based in Amsterdam.*

* Le Monde, *December 16, 1980.*

EUROPA

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On the contrary

Hiawatha's warning

You shall hear how Hiawatha,
Known to some as Roh-nal-drey-gun,
Gathered all his braves around him,
Gathered round him wise advisers,
Wise in ways of distant countries
Far beyond the Eastern Ocean.
First came Alekh-san-dur-ha-ig,
Warrior from mighty Neh-to;
Followed Khee-sin-djur, the Rover;
Last came lovely Laughing Water,
Minnehaha or An-arm-strong.
"Listen well", said Hiawatha.
"Our false friends across the Ocean
Will not buy our cloths and feedstuffs,
Say we have our power cheaply,
Threaten to drive out our merchants.
"Tell our friends", said Hiawatha,
"That I give them solemn warning:
Till they buy our cloths and feedstuffs
They must forfeit my protection."
Far and wide went out the message
To those lands across the Ocean;
Trembled all those mighty nations,
Trembled, and resumed their commerce,
Bought great Hiawatha's feedstuffs,
Bought his cloths and shirts and leggins.
All went well for nigh a twelvemonth,
Till, in lands across the Ocean,
Cloth and leggin makers muttered,
Muttered in a growing anger,
Anger and demand for vengeance;
Vowed revenge on Hiawatha,
Threatened to drive out his merchants.
"Very well", said Hiawatha,
"If you seek a trade war, wage it;
Wage it, and see who is victor."
"Wait!", said lovely Laughing Water,
Minnehaha, one-time envoy:
"I am weary of our quarrels,
Of our wranglings and dissensions;
All our strength is in our union,
All our danger is in discord.
Tomahawks we all must bury."
Then on both sides of the Ocean,
Tomahawks and clubs they buried,
Smoked in Ghat the sacred Peace-Pipe.
With relief sighed Hiawatha,
And in peace the braves departed,
Went in peace—until the next time.

Pangloss

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TO AND FROM THE BRINK

How many more times can Poland afford to go to the brink before pulling back? The agreement hammered our between Solidarity and the Government over the weekend averted the threat of a one hour national strike today. The agreement contains a sensible compromise over the question of Saturday working. It also gives Solidarity greater access to the media. The very fact that Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, went on television to announce the agreement is a mark of how far the union is now accepted by the state as a legitimate and independent interest group.

But every time an eleventh hour compromise is reached, the process becomes just a little more threadbare, the ritual dance a little less convincing. The Polish Government is in a dilemma, because it has to satisfy the demands of the trade unionists—and, by extension, the vast majority of Poles—while at the same time appeasing Moscow. The tactic adopted by the Polish Communist Party leader, Mr Stanislaw Kania, is clearly to implement the agreement reached in Gdansk after last summer's strikes as slowly and as partially as possible, so that he can claim to be both tolerating the birth of free trade unionism (in Mr Walesa's hearing) and subtly strangling it (for the ears of Mr Brezhnev). Every major concession undermines this delicate balancing act, and makes it harder for Mr Kania to hold off the threat of Soviet intervention.

Mr Walesa, meanwhile, is under pressure from the grassroots. Solidarity is a democratic, decentralized organization, in which the national committee headed by Mr Walesa plays a coordinating rather than dictatorial role. Feeling in the regional committees is running high, and it is only with great difficulty—and through personal persuasion—that Mr Walesa is able to push Solidarity along the path of moderation. The demand among some strikers in the provinces that corrupt local officials should be removed is understandable. But it is also dangerous, since it implies that Solidarity has a right to control appointments in the Communist-run administration.

This potential challenge to the political system—as opposed to the presentation of social and economic demands—is writ large in the question of Rural Solidarity, which has sprung from the grievances of Poland's farmers, most of them smallholders. There are three and a half million private farmers in Poland, and Polish agriculture depends on them. Not all of them have actually signed up with Rural Solidarity, as the peasants' free association has come to be known. But Poland's rural population is less politically active than urban Poles, and the present level of agitation by farmers is only the tip of the iceberg. Rural Solidarity is demanding the legal recognition granted to its urban counterpart, and the National Committee of Solidarity proper has backed up this demand.

This challenge from the countryside is no less serious for the Government than the emergence of free trade unions in the towns. Urban Solidarity, it is true, strikes at the heart of Communist ideology, in that the Communist state is supposed to represent, and be run by, the working class. The very existence of free trade unionism in Polish factories daily belies this claim. But at least—from Warsaw's point of view, or even Moscow's—the workers are contained within the framework of an almost wholly state-run industry. The farmers, by contrast, are already independent, since although they rely on the state for supplies of farm machinery, their farms are an island of private endeavour in a largely collective society. A legally recognized association of farmers would not only have bargaining power over such economically crucial matters as the sale of agricultural produce to state retail outlets, but would also be a permanent affront to Communist ideology.

Rural Solidarity might appear less alarming to the authorities if presented as an expansion or invigoration of existing farmers' associations, such as the agricultural "circles" for distribution of farm machinery. Indeed, there is in theory no reason why associations of this kind should not exist within the framework of a one-party state. It is doubtful whether Mr Kania sees it that way, however, and certain that the Kremlin does not. Mr Kania's recent warning that "alternative centres of power" could not be tolerated in Poland was clearly meant partly for Soviet ears, and partly as a reminder to fellow Poles of the need for an appearance of national consensus. Solidarity's leaders understand that constraint, but are rightly wary of its being used as a pretext for cancelling the gains they have already made.

A RECIPE FOR INFLATION

The TUC's proposals for the Budget are called "A Plan for Growth". They might more honestly have been called a recipe for inflation. The overall approach is based on the belief that economic recovery can be induced by the Government scattering money like confetti. The scale of the proposed boost to demand, at £6,000m, is considerably larger than any but the most fanatical believers in fiscal expansion would recommend.

Such a policy could only be pursued by abandoning all attempts at keeping the money supply under reasonable control. Merely maintaining interest rates at their present high level would not allow a Government deficit on the scale which this would produce to be funded. The extra demand would soon find itself converted into higher prices. At the end of the experiment, output would be no higher and the hard won gains in the fight against inflation would have been lost.

The TUC recommends wrong policies because its thinking is based on false analysis. The present recession cannot reasonably be blamed on an excessively tight Government fiscal policy. Total borrowing by Government is likely to be over £13,000m this year. The level of final demand in the economy has held up fairly well.

The recession has been caused by a rundown of stocks, which is the natural consequence of high real interest rates and falling inflation. As stocks revert to more normal levels, the level of output should first stabilize and then pick up of its own accord. Any recovery is likely to be weak, but that is a function of the weakness of the economy. It cannot be expected that a policy which deliberately avoids stimulating demand will produce anything other than a slow upturn. To try to achieve more would simply produce another bout of inflation.

Even if there were a possibility of some easing of the Government's fiscal stance, the TUC's method would be the wrong way of using the money. Roughly a third of the £6,000m would be spent on tax concessions, including a cut in employers' National Insurance contributions to reverse the increase announced in November. But two thirds of the money would go on extra public spending. If there is a criticism which can be made of the Government's handling of public spending it is that it has allowed too much, not too little. Cuts in spending programmes in all areas have been difficult to achieve. The nationalized industries have shown a particular tendency to consume cash in large quantities. Yet the TUC advocates giving yet more money to the nationalized industries.

Other parts of the spending programme seem to be determined entirely on political grounds. Education is allocated £500m because that is what is needed to restore spending to the Labour Government level. The TUC says that its proposals are designed to show that there is an alternative to the course of action being pursued by the Government. On the evidence presented, it is not one which need give the Government great pause for thought.

THE QUESTION OF AID FOR EL SALVADOR

The "final offensive" launched by the guerrillas in El Salvador last month has very largely petered out. After mounting a series of concerted attacks in different parts of the country, they have now been driven back with heavy losses. The regular army proved stronger, and the guerrillas did not attract the public support which they had to have if they were to succeed in overthrowing the government. But this setback is certainly not the end of the story. The basic conditions of life in El Salvador which have led to the protest movement—the inequalities of wealth and government repression—remain as before, the guerrillas are undefeated, and the prospect is one of continuing civil war, misery and international concern.

Much is going to depend on the policy of the Reagan Administration towards Central America as a whole. One of the merits of the Carter Administration was that it recognized the need to change traditional American policies in the region—though it did not take it far enough. It saw that the United States could not simply continue to support repressive regimes, because it opened the way to their overthrow by leftist revolutionaries sympathetic to Cuba. So after the overthrow of President Somoza in Nicaragua, which drove home the point, it took trouble to establish civil relations with the new revolutionary government. It criticized the Guatemalan government for its human rights record; and it backed the Salvadorean government, in spite of the appalling brutality of its armed forces, because of the reforms it tried to introduce, particularly agrarian reform.

This support for reform was bitterly attacked by the right, both in El Salvador and in the United States, as being too accommodating towards Marxism; and the campaign indications were that the new Administration would revert to traditional policies. So far it has backed increased aid for El Salvador and suspended aid to Nicaragua. Mr Robert White, a career diplomat who was American Ambassador in San Salvador and who was closely identified with American policy there, is reportedly to lose his job. But these decisions do not go as far as some of President Reagan's more right-wing supporters would have liked. The Administration is still reviewing policy, so it is possible that a more realistic assessment will emerge.

The fact is that nothing will be solved by simply stepping up American aid, civil or military, to the government of El Salvador. It is understandable that the Americans would not be happy to see a leftist government installed in El Salvador. But the basic revolutionary impulse comes from the conditions of life there, not from Cuba or elsewhere, and the only way to stabilize the situation is to meet the demand for change. What is needed now is a constructive policy which recognizes this and tries to bring the two sides together in negotiations. It will not be easy. At this stage the guerrillas are refusing to speak to the Salvadorean Government on the grounds that it is just an American puppet, and saying that they will only negotiate with the United States. But some formula can surely be found for getting round this difficulty. It must be if the killing is ever to stop in El Salvador.

Feeding the Third World

From Mrs Bertha Bradby

Sir, In the article by Melvyn Westlake (January 8) and letters by Mr Clarke (January 13) and Lord Walston (January 26) on the food crisis in the developing world there has been no mention of the crucial part played by women in the production and processing of food.

If women have any access to land in developing countries they grow at least part and often all the food consumed by the family. Their work often includes all post harvesting of grains, fetching and carrying of fuel and water and the care of animals, as well as all the household tasks. As this work is performed in a family setting it is not included in the gross national product (GNP) of the country and there has been a failure to recognize its importance in the development process.

Ideas on development are now changing and much thought is being given as to how women can participate more actively in rural development. I would submit that money spent on their education in primary health care, nutrition and community development, together with the provision of simple appropriate technology, would go a long way to relieving rural poverty.

As a result of an initiative taken largely by the British Government at the Women's Conference at Mexico in 1975, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Women was set up. Money has been provided through this fund first for identifying women's needs and then supplying technical and financial assistance for training and setting up small scale agricultural and industrial projects.

In this way the poorest people in the poorest countries, namely the women, are being helped to provide more food for their families. It was encouraging that at the Mid-Decade Review Conference at Copenhagen last July many governments pledged further support for this important fund.

Yours sincerely,
BERTHA BRADBY,
(Chairman, Women's Advisory Council, United Nations Association),
Beech House,
Seend,
Melksham, Wiltshire.

Nationality proposals

From Mr Robin M. White

Sir, The Nationality Bill before Parliament is entirely unnecessary. Even the Government admits, indeed hotly contends, as your Home Affairs Correspondent reported, that the Bill will change little beyond names. The 1948 Act still serves us well.

Indeed it is a quite separate objection to the Bill that it fails to alter the law, merely squeezing nationality to fit the more illiberal parts of immigration policy. It is not even effective in its aim of equating nationality and right of entry, for the rights of free movement into the United Kingdom of EEC workers and their dependants remain untouched.

But the objection closest to Mr Curtis's heart (letters, January 22) is no doubt, that the Secretary of State is given wide arbitrary powers to decide which foreign-born children shall be nationals, and which shall not. This power is explicitly stated not to be reviewable by any court. Hardly the sort of thing you expects from a Tory Party traditionally concerned with the liberties of the subject.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN M. WHITE,
Faculty of Law,
The University of Dundee,
Scrymgeour Building,
Park Place,
Dundee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Priorities for a centre party

From Professor J. E. Meade, FBA

Sir, Many of us would much prefer either the Liberals or the social democrats to either the Conservatives or the present Labour Party. The tragedy is that with our present electoral system we may be unable effectively to express this preference unless contests between Liberals and social democrats can be avoided at elections. But such a pact may be difficult to achieve, partly for personal and party reasons in the various constituencies and partly because of real differences of emphasis between the Liberal and social democratic philosophies. I suggest the following solution:

1 Let the Liberals and social democrats now concert on one, and only one, item of policy, namely, the preparation of an agreed detailed Bill for a system of proportional representation which would subsequently make it possible for Liberals and social democrats to oppose each other at the polls without disaster to their representations in Parliament.

2 Let them agree, constituency by constituency, not to oppose each other at the next election, this pact to last only until the PR Bill became law.

3 Let them agree that if they win a combined working majority at the next election they will at once enact the PR Bill and then immediately dissolve Parliament for an election under the new system.

4 Let them agree that if they do not win a combined working majority they will not join any government and will vote consistently against every government on every issue until the PR Bill is enacted. In this case, if they held the balance of power in Parliament, they could ensure that either the PR Bill was enacted or Parliament was dissolved for a new election, a process which they should agree to prolong, so long as they retained the requisite numbers in Parliament, until the PR Bill was enacted.

A continuing constituency alliance with social democrats is unattractive to many Liberals; but surely PR would be worth a once-for-all combination of this kind, with the prospect of subsequent free and undamaging rivalry between them, and of a final end to the ridiculously unfair under-representation of Liberals in Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. MEADE,
40 High Street,
Little Shelford,
Cambridge.
January 29.

From Mr Oliver Kingdon

Sir, Now that Dr Owen has announced that he does not intend to stand as a Labour candidate at the next election we can assume that the formation of a new centre party is much nearer.

Dr Owen and his friends are experienced enough politicians to know that political parties and political campaigns are expensive to form and run, and that financial backing is essential. They are also practical enough to realize that the money required to effect the realignment of British politics is not likely to come from the millions of ordinary voters who are only able to express their mid-term discontent through the public opinion polls.

One is bound, therefore, to assume that money is being promised to them and to wonder from whom it might be coming. The trade unions have money and political interests, but they are not likely to be promising support to those whom they have effectively driven out of their own party. Private wealth is more likely to prefer the Conservatives to social democrats, and small businesses, whether commercial or industrial, have their work cut out to survive, and have learnt through bitter experience to put not their trust in politicians.

Could it, therefore, be the City and big business, where Mr Roy Jenkins now finds himself, or even continental money, which is proposing to finance a new social democratic party?

It will be interesting to know when Dr Owen will be enlightening us and, if the assumption is correct that it is on big business that he intends to rely, how this aspect of his campaign will appeal to the man in the street.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER KINGDON,
6 Woodland Drive,
Mapperley Park,
Nottingham.
January 31.

From Mr P. Willsman

Sir, What seems to be particularly bothering the Establishment is the fact that the Wembley conference represented a triumph for the rank and file. It was the rank and file delegates in unions such as ASTMS (Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs) who decided to back the USDAW (Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers) resolution, on the grounds that it gave the industrial wing of the party a significant voice, and contained important provisions such as recorded voting which will inhibit miscasting of votes. It is likely that a majority of trade union leaders did not prefer the USDAW resolution, but the point is that their delegations did. This is no doubt why the activities of the totally unaccountable TULV (Trade Unions for Labour Victory) are being extended. It can be seen as an attempt by the trade union leaders to maintain their independence from the rank and file.

The prima donnas in the Council for Social Democracy seem to be motivated by the same considerations. They have not complained about the block vote in the past when it went in their favour. Indeed, Hugh Gaitskell's greatest triumph was the fixing of the block vote. It was when Jim failed to fix it that they began to talk about leaving. At the close of the Wembley conference Bill Rodgers made a very significant statement. He is widely reported as saying: "Foot cannot deliver." In other words, the block vote can no longer be relied upon to keep the rank and file in their hitherto subservient place.

Sadly it looks as if we will now be treated to the unedifying spectacle of Michael Foot trying to fix the October conference with the help of the trade union leaders. And this the very man who a few weeks ago called for an end to the infighting and described the arguments over the constitution as similar to monks arguing over how many angels can be accommodated in the point of a needle. But we can be sure that the rank and file will strongly oppose any attempted changes that are foisted upon them.

Yours faithfully,
P. WILLSMAN,
322B Plumstead High Street, SE18.
January 30.

From Mr Roger Gray, QC

Sir, At least Lord Shawcross (January 29) has now had the honesty to explain his departure from active politics. At the time that he was Attorney General some of us took the view that he was not being true to the country in allying himself to what was, even in the Attlee days, a potentially subversive political force.

Thirty years later, Mrs Shirley Williams. Mr Roy Jenkins and others are just beginning to realize that they joined the wrong side. Good luck to them, if they can form a civilized, responsible and intellectually honest opposition. But do not let them think that they command the respect of their elders and contemporaries of a similar intellectual and patriotic mould who have watched with contempt their weak and indecisive attitude over many years.

As Sir Edward Grigg said in 1947, "My chief complaint about the socialists is that they are emasculating the British people". When one looks back over the last 30-odd years and watched the antics of the gang of 4/13, one sees what he meant.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER GRAY,
Queen Elizabeth Building,
Temple, EC4.
January 29.

From Mrs Barbara Wall

Sir, Some of us who are watching from the sidelines the political upheavals now taking place in this country are amazed that the social democrats are being acclaimed as something "new". For surely they uphold the policies of the Labour Party as this has been operating over the past years (pro-Nato, pro-Common Market, etc)—the Labour Party that in May, 1979, polled its lowest vote for many years.

It seems to some of us that the only "new" element in British politics—bright and polished and new—comes from the Labour left, who alone are questioning the sterile dictum, *Si vis pacem para bellum.*

Yours, etc,
BARBARA WALL,
Swan Cottage,
Rackham,
Pulborough, West Sussex.

In defence of 'Haigspeak'

From Miss S. M. Hagan

Sir, On what he calls "Haigravation" (report, January 28), your Correspondent, William Safire, is barking up an entirely mythical tree. In fact, the interchangeability of parts of speech (also known as flexibility, or as idiomatic grammar) is and has been for centuries the chief distinguishing mark and main strength of the English language. Moreover, the verbs "to caveat" and "to context" (just in the way that Mr Haig is quoted as using them) both appear in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary, while "to burdenshare", though new, is not different in kind from such familiar forms as "to waterproof" or "to babysit".

Almost all nouns can equally well be verbs (to book, to chair, to table, to time, etc) and so can some prepositions (to down, to up), and all nouns can be adjectives at will (Cup Final, London Transport, peak period, etc).

In "But me no buts", and Shakespeare's "Uncle me no uncles", the conjunction "but" and the noun "uncle" are used both as nouns and as verbs: would Mr Safire consider "but me no buts" to be derisorily un-English? Or is he merely indulging in a misguided spot of Haigbaiting?

S. F. HAGAN,
45 De Parys Avenue,
Bedford.
January 28.

From Squadron Leader D. L. Masterman

Sir, There is nothing new about the freedom with which Americans—especially military Americans—exploit English. In the Nato headquarters in which I work next to our transatlantic allies we are well used to prioritizing our targets, conceptualizing our ideas and surfacing issues.

Rather more startling is the way new words are invented with the opposite meaning to what one might expect. A list of "attendees" refers to those who are in attendance, not those who are attended.

Since such terms are often cheerfully adopted by British speakers who welcome their convenience and also invent their own (such as "to liaise", for example), I think even shocked purists will have to recognize that, eventually some Haigspeak will find its way into English dictionaries.

Moreover, this linguistic technique is not to be despised, since it continues an historic trend to greater simplification of English and demonstrates its flexibility by deriving logical forms from the existing language structure. It is the process which finds its ultimate expression in the word-formation system of Esperanto, in which language it is extremely successful.

Yours morphologizingly,
DICCON MASTERMAN,
Maple Tree Cottage,
104 Botley Road,
Chesham,
Buckinghamshire.

From Professor R. A. Leigh, FBA

Sir, Those who presume to correct the English of others should first of all make sure of their facts. "To asterisk" has been good English since the early eighteenth century.

I am, Sir,
Your most humble and obedient servant,
R. A. LEIGH,
Trinity College,
Cambridge.
January 28.

From Mr R. V. White

Sir, English is not a listed building to be preserved in antique style; nor is it a suburban "semi" awaiting modernization. Fortunately, English as a living organism has shown itself capable of surviving the kind of foolish interference proposed by peers of the realm (*The Times*, January 29) who may be encouraged to find better employment than legislating for the future of the English language.

Yours faithfully,
R. V. WHITE,
108 Kendrick Road,
Reading,
Berkshire.
January 29.

D'Oyly Carte difficulties

From Mr G. Stark

Sir, I am not sure whether to be surprised or otherwise to learn that the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company is facing serious financial difficulty. During the last five years or so I have attended many of their performances, but have not yet during the same period managed to contact them even once on their publicised telephone numbers.

Since by the evidence of one's own eyes they are not playing to packed houses, one is ineluctably drawn to the conclusion that their financial administration, far from being admirably conducted as is claimed in some quarters, is something of a shambles.

Yours faithfully,
G. STARK,
Keswick,
16 Tilton Road,
Borough Green,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

Attempted suicide figures

From Mr D. W. Rankin

Sir, Professor Ivor H. Mills (January 23) notes the falling parasuicide rate in Cambridge and Edinburgh and suggests "it may herald a change in society". Contrary to the trend which he has suggested, the number of parasuicides in Edinburgh rose in 1980.

The factors which influence parasuicide rates are complex and poorly understood. Casting a horoscope for society on the basis of poorly understood phenomena should remain the function of astrologers.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD W. RANKIN,
University Department of Psychiatry,
(Royal Edinburgh Hospital),
Morningside Park, Edinburgh.

The cost of dying

From Mrs W. D. O'Hanlon

Sir, If the cheapest coffins really cost £268, as Mrs Goodwin tells us (January 28) surely we can find some way to reduce this main item in the cost of dying?

Now that elm boards, the traditional wood for coffins, are almost unobtainable, is it not perhaps time for the birth of a new industry manufacturing coffins in glass fibre? This material already usefully keeps water in baths and out of boats.

As the boat industry is currently in difficulties, it could very well turn itself to the mass production of coffins in all sizes at a fraction of the above cost.

The hearse which recently carried over a million signatures to Downing Street (photograph, January 21) took a wrong turning; it should have gone to the headquarters of the Union of Funeral Directors.

Yours faithfully,
KATHERINE O'HANLON,
The Rectory,
Studland,
Swanage,
Dorset.
January 29.

From Mrs N. A. Walton

Sir, Why don't people make their own? Surely the health and safety specifications/regulations for a coffin are not a secret? I am sure that an adult education class in coffin-making would prove to be very popular!

Yours faithfully,
N. A. WALTON,
13 Rosehill Road, SW18.
January 30.

The Pope in Britain

From the Reverend Brocard Sewell

Sir, Ever since the Reformation split, Roman Catholics have entertained hopeful visions of a Pope one day singing High Mass in Canterbury Cathedral. But surely such an act would be the sign of an accomplished reconciliation between Canterbury and Rome? Without such achieved unity a eucharistic service of this kind could only be a cause of further misunderstandings and controversy.

Until the problems left to us by the two papal bulls, *Regnans in excelsis* (Pius V) and *Apostolicae curae* (Leo XIII), are resolved jointly and severally by the Court of Rome and Lambeth Palace it is difficult to see how any reflective churchman (or woman), of whatever allegiance, could feel happy at the notion of the kind of celebration being proposed in some quarters.

Surely the answer to the problem is a Solemn Evensong *coram Pontifice*, with the Archbishop of Canterbury as celebrant.

It would be a fitting gesture if, in preparation for this occasion, the Pope were to offer to bear the cost of providing a suitable tomb and monument for Cardinal Pole, the last Archbishop of Canterbury in communion with the Holy See, whose sarcophagus still stands on the floor of the cathedral, unburied.

Yours sincerely,
BROCARD SEWELL,
Whitefriars, Charlton Kings,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

From Dr G. D. S. Henderson

Sir, In the correspondence in your columns about the Pope's visit to Britain and the possibility of his saying Mass at Canterbury, I have not seen any mention of an alternative to the cathedral as the location of this event.

The special place of the cathedral in the Anglican Communion on the one hand, and on the other hand its association with the cult of St Thomas, a phenomenon specifically of the High Middle Ages, perhaps do not make it the best setting for the historic universal gesture represented by a papal Mass in England. Nowhere, however, in England could be more appropriate than the site of St Augustine's, the monastery, originally dedicated to SS Peter and Paul, most closely associated with the beginning and spread of the Roman mission to England.

A papal Mass there would be sensitive to the debt of England to the Pope's great predecessor, St Gregory, whom the first generations of Christian Englishmen acknowledged as their evangelist, while the ruins of the monastery would underline the incontrovertible changes that have taken place in the church in England.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE D. S. HENDERSON,
University of Cambridge,
Department of History of Art,
1 Scroope Terrace, Cambridge.
January 26.

Lambeth's spending

From Mr R. P. Kennedy

Sir, Lambeth ratepayers have received a revised statement of their council's expenses, along with the supplementary rate demand. It reveals that among the "fundamental services which account for the vast proportion of our expenditure" (Councillor Ted Knight, January 26) the greatest overspending (more than 20 per cent) occurred under "democratic representation and communication".

Spending under this head now exceeds that on libraries, on parks and on street cleansing; it is not far short of that on roads. To control such expenditure has nothing to do with closing old people's and children's homes, but more to do with reducing the Marxist propaganda regularly circulated to each household without charge.

The leader of Lambeth Council claims "the overwhelming support of the people", and it is clear how he hopes to achieve it. Must this be accepted as the cost of democracy?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD KENNEDY,
1 Claylands Road, SW8.

Base coinage

From Mr Ian Curteis

Sir, Let us under no circumstances dignify our nasty new coinage with those fine words "shilling" and "florin", but continue to say "pee" which in one neat syllable expresses both what we feel about decimal coinage, and its approximate value.

Yours truly,
IAN CURTEIS,
Mumford House,
Kingsnorth,
Ashford,
Kent.
January 31.

From Mr Warren Greatrex

Sir, May a visitor from Canada be allowed to make a friendly suggestion, in view of the news of an impending addition to your coinage?

Speaking as one who has been "on" a decimal coinage all my life, the most useful coin of all is "the quarter", ie the 25 cent piece. I think Americans would agree.

For convenience and quick acceptability, might I suggest consideration be given to a 25p piece rather than a 20p one. (Vending machine operators might be over-enthusiastic, of course!)

Sincerely,
WARREN GREATREX,
The Highlands,
Great Doward,
Symonds Yat,
Herefordshire.
January 29.

From Dr C. R. Martys

Sir, An oblate heptagon (Leader, January 28)? Surely not. Our 50p piece is a regular heptagon; it has no axis of asymmetry and therefore cannot be oblate. An oblate geometric object is asymmetric about some axis of rotation—the Earth, for example, is an oblate spheroid, squashed slightly at the poles.

Yours sincerely,
C. R. MARTYS,
Applecross,
Wyedale Crescent,
Bakewell,
Derbyshire.
January 29.

Family matters

From Mr Alastair Service

Sir, Quite contrary to Mr Butt's interpretation (January 22) of my letter to its chairman, Family Forum has a duty to find effective ways of representing and expressing grass roots opinion of all kinds of families. Mr Butt's definition of "family" as those "linked together by marriage, blood or formal adoption" is not the Oxford Dictionary's primary meaning, which is "household".

If Family Forum is to be truly representative then it should concern itself with both. This will not be achieved by little groups claiming, without justification, to represent the majority of families, but by enabling families of all kinds to speak for themselves and identify their own needs.

We have to help families to flourish in changing twentieth-century conditions, not in those of the past.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR SERVICE,
75 Flask Walk,
Hampstead, NW3.
January 26.

Card of identity

From Miss B. M. Boulton

Sir, British Rail's attempts at running machines smoothly may not always succeed, but their humanity must be commended. I recently went to Italy and hesitatingly addressed a postcard to my fellow-commuters thus: "To the only smoking compartment in the rearmost carriage of the 17.23 ex Euston to Northampton."

Not only did it arrive, but a BR employee had had the decency to put it in an envelope pinned to the seat marked, "Cleaners, please do not remove".

My faith is restored!

Yours faithfully,
BRIDGET BOULTON,
29 Uppingham Street,
Northampton.
January 28.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
February 2: The Duke of Edinburgh, as an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Kings Lynn, this evening at Sandringham House received a party of Rotarians in connexion with the Paul Harris Fellowship.

President Shagari of Nigeria has accepted an invitation from the Queen to pay a state visit to Britain from March 17 to 20.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as a trustee of the Royal Academy Trust, will attend a meeting of the trustees at Buckingham Palace on February 11.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference, will preside at a meeting of group chairmen from Canada at Buckingham Palace on February 16.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as an honorary life member of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers, will present the association's Prince Philip Award and certificates of merit at Buckingham Palace on February 18.

The Duke of Edinburgh will address the Young People and Training conference organized by Britain's Industry Training Boards, at the National Liberal Club, 1 Whitehall Place, on February 19.

The Duke of Kent, as Colonel-in-Chief, will visit the 1st Battalion, the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment at Thetford, Norfolk, on March 30.

The Duke of Kent will attend the annual convention of the Institute of Directors at the Albert Hall on March 24.

The Duchess of Kent, Colonel in Chief of the Army Catering Corps, will attend the past and present officers' dinner at Quaglino's Hotel, London, on March 20.

Birthdays today

Sir Edward Alment, 59; Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, 70; Lord Gore-Booth, 72; Sir Edgar Keatinge, 76; Sir Hugh Linstead, 80; Brigadier the Hon Dame Mary Pihl, 65; Lord Redcliffe-Maud, 75; Professor Sir Alexander Robertson, 73; Lord Sherfield, 77.

Today's engagements

The Prince of Wales attends a performance of Donizetti's *Belisario*, Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, 6.55.

The Duchess of Kent visits St Anthony's Hospital, North Cheam, Surrey, 11.15.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent attend the New Zealand Society's Waitangi dinner, Royal Lancaster Hotel, 7.45.

Lunchtime music: Organ, St Peter-upon-Cornhill, 12.30; Organ, St Lawrence Jewry, 1; soprano, violin, organ, St Michael's Cornhill, 1.

Concert: Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Daniel Barenboim, Hexagon, Civic Centre, Reading, 7.45.

Exhibitions: Groups IV, Waddington Galleries, Cork Street, 10-5.30. Photographs of the Queen Mother, St Albans Cathedral.

Lectures: Sea birds, British Museum (Natural History), 3; The meaning of independence in Zimbabwe, High Commissioner for Zimbabwe, Polytechnic of North London, Holloway Building, 2-3.

Memorial service: Canon C. S. Milford, Chapel of the Living Water at the Church Missionary Society, Waterloo Road, 5.30.

Tate record

The Tate Gallery, London, had 1,330,937 visitors last year, a record. The most popular exhibitions were Abstraction, Salvador Dali and Thomas Gainsborough.

New headmaster

Mr R. J. Wilder will become Headmaster of The Old Ride, Bradford-on-Avon, in April. He will succeed Mr M. I. W. Flynn, who is retiring.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon Nicholas Soames and Miss C. N. Weatherall
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Lord and Lady Soames of Castlemill House, Odiham, Hampshire, and Catherine, eldest daughter of Captain and Mrs Tony Weatherall, of Cowhill, Dumfries.

Mr G. R. B. Wrey and The Hon C. J. Lindesay-Bethune
The engagement is announced between George Richard Bourchier, elder son of Sir Bourchier Wrey, BT, and Lady Wrey, of Durban, Natal, South Africa, and Caroline, daughter of Viscount Garnock, of Combermere Abbey, Whitchurch, Shropshire, and the Hon Mrs Timothy Horn, of the Old Rectory, Tarporley, Cheshire.

Mr D. M. R. Bancroft and Miss G. M. J. Rippon
The engagement is announced between Dennis, son of Mr and Mrs R. V. Bancroft, of Laverstock, Wiltshire, and Georgina, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs P. T. Rippon, of Broomfield, Essex.

Mr T. Ferguson and Miss C. Morel
The engagement is announced between Timothy, elder son of Mr and Mrs B. F. Ferguson, of Ihambroke House, Sydney, Australia, and Corine, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. P. Morel, of Orpington, Kent.

Mr L. D. Jones and Miss B. A. Smith
The engagement is announced between Lawrence Dudley, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. Jones, of Prestatyn, Clwyd, and Barbara Ann, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs A. J. Smith, of Manor House Stretton-on-Dunsmore, Rugby, Warwickshire.

Mr I. J. M. Morrison and Miss V. J. Maynard
The engagement is announced between Ian, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. S. Morrison, of The Old Rectory, Great Leighs, Essex, and Jilly, daughter of Mrs E. Maynard and the late Mr W. R. Maynard, of Taunton, Somerset.

Mr F. S. R. Rigby and Miss S. D. Wright
The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr Arthur Rigby, of Highcliffe-on-Sea, Dorset, and Mrs Helena Rigby, of Grappenhall, Cheshire, and Susie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Wright, of Purley, Surrey.

Mr G. R. Watson and Miss C. C. Gatensbury
The engagement is announced between Gavin, son of Mr and Mrs Neil Watson, Woodside Manor, Lymington, Hampshire, and Charlotte, daughter of Major and Mrs Brian Gatensbury, of Four Hedges, Whiteleaf, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire.

Marriages

Lieutenant C. R. Style, RN and Miss C. A. Woodford
The marriage took place on Saturday in the Chapel of the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, between Lieutenant Charles Style, RN, son of Lieutenant-Commander Sir Godfrey and Lady Style, of Rocklands, Norton-sub-Hamdon, Somerset, and Miss Charlotte Woodford, elder daughter of the late Lieutenant Tim Woodford, RN, and of Mrs George Walker, and stepdaughter of Mr George Walker, of 8 rue du Moulin, Brumath, Strasbourg. The Rev R. B. R. Walker, stepgrandfather of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Right Rev A. W. M. Weekes and the Rev. W. E. Weldon.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her stepfather, wore a gown of wild silk, with a train, and a family Honiton lace veil. She carried a bouquet of white roses, freesias and lilies-of-the-valley. Harriet and Emily Walker, halfsisters of the bride, Antonia and Katherine Good and Miss Amanda Woodford, sister of the bride, attended her. Mr Jonathan Gage was best man.

A reception was held in Dartmouth Castle and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr P. Schaad and Miss S. M. Hawker
The marriage took place on Saturday, January 24, at Greenwich, Connecticut, United States, between Mr Peter Schaad and Miss Sarah Hawker.

Horners' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Horners' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr C. W. Welch; Upper Warden, Mr G. Edmiston; Renter Warden, Mr L. S. Wheeler. Mr P. V. Oldak has been elected Clerk of the company.



Memorial service

Mr F. Sykes
The Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire was present at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Frank Sykes held in Salisbury Cathedral on January 30. The Dean of Salisbury officiated, assisted by Bishop Victor Pike, who gave an address, Canon Peter Buckler, chaplain to the Royal Agricultural Society of England; and the Rev Christopher Brown. The Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire and Mrs Brassey and deputy lieutenants and their ladies attended. Among others present were:

Mrs Sykes (widow), Mr and Mrs Tristram Sykes (son and daughter-in-law), Jonathan, Melanie, Carla and Alexander Sykes (grandchildren), Mr and Mrs Edward Sykes (brother and sister-in-law), Mr Geoffrey Sykes (brother), Sir Patrick and Lady Reilly (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs F. Sinclair (sister), Mr Richard Sykes, Mr David Sykes, Mr Mark Sinclair, Mrs P. Austerfield, Miss Jane Reilly, Colonel and Mrs Patrick Sykes, Mr W. Sykes, Mr J. Greener, Lady (Francis) Sykes, Miss Mary Sykes, Mr Anthony Sykes, Mr Hugh Sykes, Mr and Mrs Robert Pryor, Caroline Pryor, Commander R. Swann, Colonel John Yeatman, Mr Nicholas Yeatman Biggs, Annabel Yeatman Biggs, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Yeatman Biggs, Mr Julian Bower, Mrs A. Lewis, Miss M. Swann.

The Duke and Duchess of Somerset, the Dowager Countess of Radnor, the Earl of Radnor, Mary Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery, Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard, Viscount and Viscountess Ullswater, Lord Grimston of Westbury, Lord and Lady Moyne, Lord and Lady Congleton, Lord Hindlip, the Hon Charles Morrison, MP, the Hon James Morrison, the Hon Mary Morrison, the Hon Diana Makgill, the Hon Mrs Richard Butler (representing the President of the National Farmers Union), Sir Anthony Rumbold, Lady (Horace) Seymour, Lady (William) Luce, Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs, Major-General Sir John Willoughby, General Sir Richard and Lady Goodbody, Sir Edgar Keatinge, Sir John and Lady Jardine Paterson, Lady (Gerald) Wills, Sir Henry Calley, M Jean Bosson (French Embassy), Comtesse de Brie, the Chairman and County Councillors of Wiltshire County Council and their ladies: Mr Charles Smith-Ryland (chairman of council, Royal Agricultural Society of England) with Mr Christopher York (representing the trustees); Mr W. Johnstone (chairman, British Agricultural Export Council), Mr R. Graham (Massey-Ferguson, UK), Mr L. J. Evans (Booker Agriculture International), Captain Simon Clarke (MFH, South and West Wiltshire Hunt), Mr Gordon Winter ("Country Life"), the Deputy Chief Constable of Wiltshire, the staff from Norrington, Downland and Tytherington farms and many other friends.

Deal with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to provide 300 hours of feature films

BBC wins 'Gone With the Wind' TV rights

By Kenneth Gosling

By a margin of £20,000 the BBC has secured the rights to show the Hollywood classic, *Gone With The Wind* over the next 15 years with a successful bid of £4.4m for a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer package that includes 55 other films.

In total the deal will give the BBC about 300 hours of feature films at an average cost an hour of just under £14,700, compared with a cost of £100,000 an hour for home-produced material. It succeeded in outbidding independent television, which recently acquired a group of films, including *Jaws* and *Jaws 2*, after the BBC dropped out of the bidding.

Gone With The Wind, made in 1939, and starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh, was the biggest box-office success in film history, earning £14.7m, until *The Sound of Music* in the 1960s.

The film lasts 3 hours, 40 minutes and the BBC will be able to show it as often as it likes. But no one would say last night when it will make its first appearance. A decision will also have to be taken whether it will be shown with an interval, as it was in the cinema.

Clark Gable had his most celebrated part as Rhett Butler and Vivien Leigh was selected as a comparatively unknown actress to play opposite him as Scarlett O'Hara. The film was adapted from Margaret Mitchell's novel and directed by David O. Selznick.

The BBC has the rights for seven years to the rest of the films in the MGM library, described as the last important collection of family films. They include *Singing in the Rain*, *Dunkirk*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Ben Hur* (William Wyler's version) and *The Dirty Dozen*.

Many of the films have had television showings, but *Gone With The Wind* will have its premiere on British television. The BBC has arranged to spread the £4.4m payment over four years.

Overseas voice: Britain's voice overseas should not be allowed to dwindle, Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general of the BBC, said in London last night in a speech on international broadcasting.

Sir Ian, speaking to the Royal Overseas League, said the continuity of the BBC's external services was crucial in sustaining not only listening levels but also the trust of the audience in what it heard. "If this trust is allowed to wither because short-term financial cuts interrupt some services and diminish others, it will be very hard to recapture", he said.

Cuts of £4m proposed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for 1980-81 were reduced to £2.7m but the same cuts would be maintained in real terms in 1981-82 and subsequently; and the particular sacrifice that represented was in new transmitters.

Larger audiences would be reached with more modern and powerful transmitters, but without them audiences could steadily dwindle in the battle for audibility, in which Britain was being outstripped by its competitors. To some extent Britain had already been squeezed out.

On freedom to report the news, Sir Ian said resistance to the free traffic of news had unhappily come to a head through Unesco with an institutionalized move which sought to establish an intergovernmental scheme, nominally to protect journalists on foreign assignments but in practice to limit their freedom.

"We naturally wish to see journalists protected so far as it is possible, but I am afraid many governments wish to see the protection only of those journalists whom they regard as conducting themselves 'satisfactorily'". BBC correspondents in the Lebanon had had to be withdrawn because of Syrian threats to their lives.

Luncheons

HM Government
Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given in honour of the Luxembourg Foreign Minister, Mme C. Flesch, at 1 Carlton Gardens, yesterday.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, entertained at luncheon at the college yesterday Viscount Leverhulme, Sir David Steel, Mr Basil Samuel and Professor Harold Ellis.

Council of Christians and Jews.
The Apostolic Delegate was the guest of honour at a luncheon held yesterday at Hillel House, Euston, by the Council of Christians and Jews and the International Council of Christians and Jews. Canon Douglas Webster, Executive Committee Chairman of the Council of Christians and Jews, presided and welcomed the guests with Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Council of Christians and Jews. National officers present were:

The Chief Rabbi (Joint President of the Council of Christians and Jews), the Archdeacon of Oxford (vice-president), the Hon Gerard Noel (joint treasurer), the Rev Dr Isaac Levy (joint secretary), Mr Sidney Corob (vice-chairman) and Mr Leonard C. Goss (joint chief executive and honorary treasurer, International Council of Christians and Jews).

Among others present were:
The Rev Dr Jacobus (Coos) Schoneveld (general secretary, International Council of Christians and Jews), Bishop Gerald Mahon, Sister Mary Kelly, Miss Anne Cecilia Baring, Mgr Mario Oliveri, Rabbi Dr Abraham Levy, Rabbi Dr Albert Friedlander, Rabbi Harry Jacobi, the Rev Michael Porteus, the Rev Graham Jenkins, Dr David Cohen, Father Kieran Conry, Mr Ronald Hobson, Mr Raphael Djanogly, Mr Frank Green, Mr Clifford Longley, Mr Eric Moonman, Mr Jarvis Astaire, Mr Lionel Slavid, Mr Jacob M. Schreiber, Mr Douglas Burle-Brown, Mr Martin Slowe, Mr W. W. Simpson, Mr Moshe Davis and Mr Michael Freedland.

New Zealand News UK
The New Zealand News UK Editorial Consultative Board gave a luncheon at the English-Speaking Union yesterday. Colonel J. L. M. Small presided in the absence of the chairman, Mr Nigel Neilson. Among those present were:
Elizabeth Viscountess Cobham, Lord and Lady Porritt, Lord and Lady Peart, Sir Alexander and Lady Ross, Sir Harold and Lady Smedley, Mr Brian Lynch, Deputy High Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr and Mrs Alfred Friendly and Mr and Mrs Jim Wiremu.

Coal Industry Society
The Coal Industry Society held a luncheon at the Hyde Park Hotel yesterday. Mr W. M. Pybus, president, introduced the principal guest and speaker, Dr Jack Birks. Mr M. J. Sambrook was in the chair.

Dinner

Overseas Bankers Club
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, attended the annual dinner of the Overseas Bankers Club held yesterday at Guildhall. Lord Clydesmuir, president of the club, presided. Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, were the principal guests. Bankers from overseas also attended.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Sir Ian Trethowan, Director-General of the BBC, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the discussion circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held at Over-Seas House, St James's yesterday evening.

Photograph by Peter Trievnor

Throne for V and A: A throne in the Gothic style from Battle Abbey, made about 1817 by George Bullock, which has been acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum and is on display in the department of furniture.

1927 'Napoleon' film a growing success

By a Staff Reporter

A film which is turning into an international success more than half a century after it was made, Abel Gance's epic, *Napoleon*, is being brought back for three more London screenings after the initial sellout presentation during the London Film Festival in November.

Napoleon, first shown in 1927, had a troubled history and the showing in November of a restructed version by Kevin Brownlow was the first time since 1927 that the film had been shown in something close to its entirety.

The demand for tickets in November was such that the film is being shown again on the mornings of March 1, 7 and 15 at the Empire, Leicester Square. The Wren Orchestra will again play the specially composed score by Carl Davis.

Napoleon has had possibly an even greater impact in New York, where the 6,000-seat Radio City Music Hall has been packed on five occasions, and three more performances are scheduled for next weekend.

Prices for tickets for the London showings will range from £10 to £17. The British Film Institute said that the high prices were particularly caused by the cost of the orchestra, although it was also hoping to raise some extra money for the National Film Archive.

The collections in the archive will be seen more widely soon as a result of a collaboration with the Museum of London. From April, for an experimental period of three months, the museum will be running film shows each Tuesday and Thursday evening on the theme "Made in London". The programmes will comprise feature films, newsreels and documentaries ranging in date from the late 1920s to the mid-1950s.

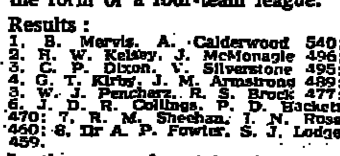
Calderwood and Mervis lead in bridge trials

By Our Bridge Correspondent

The first stage of the British Bridge League trials to determine the British open team for the Common Market Championship in April and the European Championship in July was concluded in Birmingham on Sunday evening.

B. Mervis and A. Calderwood took an early lead in the 15 rounds of 10-board matches of the round robin, which was scored on the Butler method, and maintained it although with a reduced margin until the end. The Scottish pair, H. W. Kelsey and J. McMonagle, who won the gold cup last season, were second and C. P. Dixon and V. Silverstone third.

Those three pairs earn the privilege of choosing which other pair from the top eight they will join for the final stage of the trials on March 13-15. The rest will be formed into teams by the selectors. The final trial will take the form of a four-team league.



Results:
1. B. Mervis, A. Calderwood 540; 2. H. W. Kelsey, J. McMonagle 496; 3. C. P. Dixon, V. Silverstone 495; 4. G. T. Kirby, J. M. Armstrong 489; 5. W. J. Pencharz, R. S. Brock 477; 6. J. D. R. Collings, P. D. Hackett 470; 7. R. M. Sheehan, I. N. Rose 460; 8. Dr A. P. Fowler, S. J. Lodge 459.

In the women's trial, which was played with the same hands and scoring method as in the open, the selectors announced that the first three pairs in the eight-pair double round robin would represent Great Britain in both championships. All are previous internationals. A non-playing captain will be announced later after consultation with the team.

Results:
1. Mrs S. Landy, Mrs S. Fowler, 617; 2. Miss N. Gardener, Miss P. Davies, 524; 3. Mrs M. Dennison, Mrs A. W. S. Williams, 477; 4. Mrs L. Hayes, Mrs E. Pencharz, 366; 5. Mrs M. Oldroyd, Miss M. Brunner, 357; 6. Miss M. Malcolm, Mrs P. Kissen, 353.

Enthusiastic bidding for Continental porcelain

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

German and Italian bidders were conspicuous for their enthusiastic bidding at Christie's sale of Continental porcelain yesterday. Two Meissen figures, modelled by Kaendler and Reinicke as part of a grand table centre decoration, made £22,000 (estimate £9,000 to £12,000) and £10,000 (estimate £4,000 to £6,000). The first was a *Berghauptmann* standing in a dictatorial pose on a rockwork base, the second a more menial *Bergmann* bending over the rocks. Both went to the same anonymous bidder.

Even the middle grade German porcelain often sold for prices above last autumn's levels, despite the strength of sterling, which has caused dark forebodings in the art market. Twelve Berlin plates with pierced, basketwork borders made £2,000 (estimate £1,400 to £1,800).

Even more surprising, perhaps, was the enthusiasm of Italians, whose currency has slipped farthest against sterling. There were no exceptional pieces in the sale but one Doccia figure modelled after the Farnese "Hercules", which had failed to find a buyer in an October sale and been bought in at £68, now sold comfortably at £260 (estimate £70 to £100). All the Italian items brought buoyant prices.

The sale totalled £135,580, with 13 per cent unsold. The high percentage reflects the failure of two expensive lots to find buyers, a Strasbourg figure of Gilles and a pair of Meissen hares. Both had been bought quite recently in Switzerland at top-of-the-market prices, which it proved impossible to match.

American bidders' fascination with all things American was again demonstrated at Sotheby's over the weekend. A collection of American samplers was a sellout, bringing three times more than expected at £267,208. A sampler worked by Matilda Filbert, of Pennsylvania, in 1830 when she was 12 made an auction record price for any sampler at $38,000 (estimate $4,000 to $6,000) or £15,833.

Good quality American furniture was also strongly competed for, with a serpentine mahogany tea table of Chippendale design made in New York about 1760-80 at $170,000 (estimate $100,000 to $150,000) or £70,833.

University news

Dundee
The honorary degree of LLD will be conferred on the following on July 10:
Professor J. R. Anderson, Sir Neil Cameron, Mr W. Fitzgerald, Emeritus Professor H. H. Lamb, the Dowager Countess of Mansfield and Professor J. A. Whyte.

London Polytechnic
Election
Dr L. Esaki, 1973 physics Nobel Prize winner and a director of IBM Japan, to be the Sir John Cass senior visiting research fellow.

Correction

The dinner held on Friday at Nato HQ Officers' Mess and mentioned on Saturday was given by officers of No 1 Maritime, not Maintenance, HQ Unit, R Aux AF and HMS Northwood HQ Unit, RNR.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Bell, Mrs Eleanora Ann, of Hexham, Northumberland .. £156,837
Bloxam, Mrs Edwina May, of Haslemere, Surrey .. £281,351
Brierley, Mrs Phyllis Ruby, of Rochdale £187,240
Chapman, Mr Joseph William, of Hickling, Norfolk .. £159,415
Crofts, Mr Christopher William, of Buttevant, Co Cork, farmer, estate in England, Wales and Irish Republic £580,488
Firth, Mr Henry, of Goole, Humberside £173,612
Forrest, Mr Walter, of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire .. £188,990
Meade, Mr Alfred, of Reading, Berkshire £157,256
Penman, Mr Edward Meadows, of Edenbridge, Kent .. £193,230
Rowe, Mr Stanley, of Tregony, Cornwall £274,015
Stirk, Mr George William, of Anlaby, Humberside, company director £157,842
Ternent, Mrs Margaret Lilian, of Caterham, Surrey .. £204,349
Thackray, Mr Frederick Robert, of Reading, Berkshire .. £237,600
Wilson, Mr Peter, Alresford, Hampshire, pharmaceutical chemist £186,393
Worters, Mr Frederick Hughman, of Oxted, Surrey, company director £177,027

Church news

Bishop of Blackburn to retire

The Bishop of Blackburn, the Right Rev R. A. Martineau, will retire on October 31.

Latest appointments include:
The Rev J. R. Barnett, curate of St Laurence, Northfield, diocese of Birmingham, to be Vicar of St Bernard, Hampstead, same diocese.
The Rev C. J. C. Bedford, selection secretary and vocations adviser for the Advisory Council for the Church's Ministry, Church House, Westminster, to be priest-in-charge of St Matthew, Bethnal Green, diocese of London.
The Rev W. Berriman, Vicar of Ottringham with Sunk Island and curate in charge of Halsham, diocese of York, to be also Rural Dean of South Holderness, same diocese.
The Rev J. Caldicott, priest-in-charge of St Philips, Sydenham, diocese of Southwark, to be also priest-in-charge of Holy Trinity, Sydenham, same diocese.
The Rev G. A. Cox, curate of St Philip, Chaddesden, Derby, diocese of Derby, to be Team Vicar in charge of St James, Cowley, diocese of Oxford.
The Rev J. Davey, chaplain and minor canon of St George, Windsor, diocese of Oxford, to be Rector of the Rissingtons, diocese of Gloucester.
The Rev J. C. Day, Vicar of Christ Church, Warminster, diocese of Salisbury, to be Rector of Powsey, same diocese.
The Rev R. A. Doyle, priest-in-charge of Christchurch, Oldbury, diocese of Birmingham, to be Rector and Vicar of Maker with Rame, diocese of Truro.
The Rev C. J. Goulding, Vicar of Shrub End, Colchester, diocese of Chelmsford, to be also Rural Dean of Colchester, same diocese.
The Rev P. R. L. Hale, Vicar of Crowthorne, Berks, diocese of Oxford, to be also Rural Dean of Sonning, same diocese.
The Rev M. E. Hall, Vicar of St John the Divine, Bulwell, diocese of Southwell, to be priest-in-charge of Tylers Green, Bucks, diocese of Oxford.
The Rev P. Hallett, priest-in-charge of St James, Doncaster, diocese of Sheffield, to be Vicar of the same benefice.
The Rev W. T. Hicks, Vicar of Walsden, diocese of Wakefield, to be Vicar of Knottingley, same diocese.
The Rev C. N. Hillyer, priest in charge of Hatherleigh, diocese of Exeter; to be Vicar of the same benefice.
The Rev T. H. Jones, Rector-designate of Church Langton cum Tur Langton and Thorpe Langton, diocese of Leicester; to be also diocesan adult education officer.
The Rev D. Lowe, Rector of St Alban's, Virginia, South Africa, diocese of Bloemfontein, to be Vicar of Holy Trinity, Colne, diocese of Blackburn.
The Rev I. H. Morris, curate at St Buryan, St Levan and Sennen, diocese of Truro: to be priest-in-charge of Lanteglos-by-Fowey, same diocese.
The Rev A. E. A. Murray-Stone, priest-in-charge of the Boscastle group, diocese of Truro; to be Vicar of All Saints', Falmouth, same diocese.
The Rev D. L. Parkinson, Rector of Fontmell Magna, Shaftesbury, diocese of Salisbury; to be priest-in-charge of Kingswood, Alderley and Hillesley, diocese of Gloucester.
The Rev M. F. Perham, curate at St Mary's, Addington, diocese of Canterbury; to be domestic chaplain to the Bishop of Winchester, diocese of Winchester.
The Rev S. Plunkett, Vicar of St Catherine's, Norwich, diocese of Norwich: to be honorary curate of All Saints, Hordle with St Andrew's, Tiptoe, diocese of Winchester.
The Rev B. Shillingford, Team Vicar of St George's, Croydon, diocese of Canterbury: to be Team Vicar of Morchard Bishop, Down St Mary, Clannaborough and Washford Pyne in the North Creedy team ministry, diocese of Exeter.
The Rev R. Smith, industrial chaplain in the diocese of Llandaff: to be Team Vicar of St Swithun's with Holy Trinity in the Bournemouth town centre parish, diocese of Winchester.
The Rev W. T. Snelson, Vicar of Chapel Allerton, diocese of Ripon; to be Vicar of Bardsey and East Keswick, same diocese.
The Rev G. I. F. Thompson, formerly director of the Bible Reading Fellowship; to be chaplain of All Souls College, Oxford, diocese of Oxford.
Canon G. Tomlinson, Vicar of the Priory Church of St Mary, Lancaster, diocese of Blackburn: to be Vicar of St Helen, Overton, same diocese.
The Rev D. A. Walter, formerly Rector of Lucea Cure, diocese of Jamaica: to be Vicar of Holy Trinity, Twickenham, diocese of London.
The Rev R. N. K. Watton, priest-in-charge of Lostwithiel, diocese of Truro: to be priest-in-charge of Lanivet and Lanhydrock, same diocese.

Retirements
The Rev R. A. Sleight, priest-in-charge of Great Horwood, Milton Keynes, diocese of Oxford, on April 29.
Prebendary E. H. Soutter, Team Rector of the Sidmouth, Woolbrook, Salcombe Regis and Branscombe team ministry, diocese of Exeter, at the end of April.
The Rev A. E. Watthey, honorary asst priest of Carlton Curlieu with Ilston, Shangton and Burton Overy, diocese of Leicester, on April 30.
The Rev R. H. Westbrook, Rector of Carlton Curlieu with Ilston, Shangton and Burton Overy, diocese of Leicester, on May 30.
The Rev E. M. Williamson, Vicar of Mullion, diocese of Truro, on January 30.

Amendment
The Rev J. W. Watson, Vicar of Milton Abbot with Dunterton, diocese of Exeter, will retire at the end of March and not February.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, Feb 2, 1956

Too few engineers

The industrial revolution carried through without benefit of anything that could be called an educational system gave Britain a start of about 100 years over her manufacturing rivals. When Germany, the United States and others determined to catch up they put their main reliance on technical education. Russia has lately entered the lists. Foreign competition caused anxiety even at the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London and 1867 in Paris. Since then British governments have had periodic bouts of concern about our backwardness in technical training at all levels. This concern has always been justified and its cause has never been removed. Educationally we have never stopped being behind. The pace however has quickened. It required genius to invent the steam engine, but not a complete grasp of chemistry, physics and mathematics to make one. Electronics, jet engines and atomic power, precursors of a second industrial revolution, are more complicated. Their development calls for an army of highly trained applied scientists, of whom Britain, during the war, was made deeply conscious that she did not possess enough.

Science report

Medicine: Asians and rickets

By Our Medical Correspondent

At the beginning of this century almost all slum children in Glasgow had rickets. Their bowed legs, bulging foreheads and stunted growth were all caused by lack of vitamin D.

With improvements in nutrition, and in particular the addition of vitamin D to welfare foods for infants, the disease gradually disappeared. In the early 1960s rickets returned, however, with the growth of the Asian immigrant community, and the second wave of the disease is only now being brought under control.

Rickets is rare in countries with plentiful sun, for the vitamin D necessary for healthy bones is synthesised in human skin exposed to sunlight. The farther a country is away from the equator the less sunlight it receives. In northern European cities, too little vitamin D is formed in the skins of children, especially those living in dark tenement buildings with atmospheric pollution blocking off what sun there is.

Fortunately for health, vitamin D can be supplied in the diet, especially in fish, margarine, and eggs. Rickets has become rare as children's nutrition has improved, as clean air laws have reduced atmospheric pollution, and as the benefits of fresh air and sunlight have been more widely appreciated.

Dark-skinned immigrants to Britain are, however, at special risk. Their pigmentation reduces the amount of vitamin D formed in the skin in response to sunlight. Asians also seem much more susceptible to vitamin D deficiency than Africans or West Indians. The reason for that difference is still uncertain, although one explanation may be their predominantly vegetarian diet.

Between 1968 and 1978 the probability of an Asian child in Glasgow being admitted to hospital with rickets was one in 29. In some parts of the city one Asian child in every 12 had had treatment for rickets, and 40 per cent of Asian children had evidence of vitamin D deficiency on laboratory tests. Vitamin supplements were made available through school medical officers, but the uptake was low and the disease remained disturbingly common.

The bleak statistics led in 1978 to the Greater Glasgow Health Board setting up an intensive preventive programme. Vitamin D drops, tablets, and syrup were made available free of charge to children of all ethnic groups up to the age of five and to Asian children up to the age of 18.

Doctors, nurses, and health visitors were sent information sheets on the problems and features of Asian rickets. A 12-month programme of health education was directe dat the Asian community and at schools with a high proportion of Asian pupils.

As a result of the campaign the demand for vitamin D supplements has risen eightfold, at an annual cost of about £12,000 at 1979 prices. Most Asian schoolchildren in Glasgow now know something about rickets and its prevention. Prospects seem good for the elimination of rickets from Glasgow for the second time. Other cities with large Asian communities will watch the results with interest.

British Medical Journal, January 31, 1981, p 357.

OBITUARY

MR RENE HAGUE

Printer, author and translator

Mr René Hague, printer of some of the finest of Eric Gill's illustrated works, and author of valuable studies of the poet and artist David Jones, died in Cork on January 19, after a short illness. He was 75.

Hague was born in Ireland of Irish stock, and educated at Ampleforth College and in France. A promising classicist, he went up to Oxford intending to read Greats, but he did not take his degree. Religious by nature, for a while he tried his vocation to the priesthood, in the Jesuit novitiate, but the turning-point of his life came in 1924, when he met the stone-carver and typographer Eric Gill.

Not only was Hague drawn to the blend of Catholicism, socialism and art that Gill professed, but also he immediately fell in love with his daughter Joanna. He spent a year at Gill's religio-artistic commune at Capel-y-ffin in South Wales, and later joined him at Pigotts, a converted farm near High Wycombe. There he remained until 1963 (with the exception of the war years, when he was commissioned in the RAF).

In 1930 Hague married Joanna and, under Gill's instruction, turned printer, a craft at which he excelled. The volumes he produced as a partner in the firm of Hague and Gill are treasured by connoisseurs. Intellectually, however, he was never dominated by the patriarchal Gill; and indeed, like many idealists in the 1930s, he had a brief flirtation with the Communist Party, a step of which Gill could not have approved.

Hague and Gill went out of business in the mid-1950s, and Hague sought new opportunities. He made scholarly translations from the Homer and Vergil and the early French poets, many of which were broadcast on the Third Programme. For Collins he produced a long series of translations from the French of Teilhard de Chardin and others.

Hague himself probably regarded as his most worthwhile achievement his work on David Jones, his close friend for fifty years. His general study, *David Jones* (1975), was followed by the erudite but entertaining *Commentary on the Anathemata* (1977), and the last year of his life saw both the publication of the widely-acclaimed *Dai Greatcoat, a Self-Portrait of David Jones in his Letters* (of which Hague was the editor) and the preparation for posthumous publication of *The Roman Quarry*, an unfinished poem by Jones.

René Hague was cherished by a remarkable circle of friends for his perceptive intelligence, his humour, and his lightly-worn erudition. For them the books that he had by him at the end—the New Testament, the *Aeneid*, and a novel by Evelyn Waugh—are something of an index to his mind and heart. He outlived Joanna (Joan in later life) by less than a month: she died on Christmas Day. He is survived by three of his four children.

THE REV J. H. PARSONS

The Rev J. H. Parsons, MC, who played cricket for Warwickshire from 1910 to 1934, appeared both for the Gentlemen and the Players, and toured India with the MCC in 1926-27, died on February 2, at the age of 90.

He made over 17,000 runs in his career and scored 38 centuries, reserving some of his best performances for Warwickshire's matches against the visiting tourists. His 161 against the 1928 West Indians concluded with four successive sixes and his 190 against the 1931 New Zealanders was a typical innings of faultless driving, straight and to the off. The era in which he played in part explains why he must rank as one of the very best batsmen never to have been picked for England. An explanation also lies in his varied career—as much a soldier and a clergyman as a cricketer.

John Henry Parsons was born in Oxford on May 30, 1890. The family moved to Warwickshire and his early years were spent in the car industry. He was commissioned in the field in the First World War, won the Military Cross and was almost the only survivor of the cavalry charge at Huj in 1917.

Soldiering appealed and he served on the North-West Frontier in the Indian Army in the 1920s, occasionally playing cricket for the *Europeans* in sides which included Fry, Hirst and Rhodes. He returned to professional cricket with Warwickshire in 1924 and continued as an amateur after his ordination in 1929.

His ministry was spent as a curate in Rugby during the Depression and as an incumbent of three parishes. His industry and pastoral concern as vicar of Liskeard from 1939 to 1959 was recognized by a canonry of Truro Cathedral. During his Liskeard years he returned to active service as a senior chaplain where his work among German prisoners of war and among the civilian population at Taranto won high praise.

He was a man who commanded authority and whose presence and striking looks made an impact. He could pull in the crowds at Edgbaston and fill his church at Liskeard. But the professionalism he displayed in all he did was matched by qualities of quietly bestowed compassion and generosity testified to by cricketers, soldiers and parishioners alike.

He married in 1922 Gwen Bassett who died in 1964 and he is survived by a son and a daughter.

MR GEOFFREY KEATING

Mr Geoffrey Keating, MC, died on January 30. His sudden death at his home in London removes from the scene one of the brightest and best informed people in the business and social worlds on either side of the Atlantic. He was 66.

The son of an Irish MP at Westminster, he began his career as a photographer in Fleet Street working for the *Daily Sketch* and Kemsley Newspapers. Soon after the outbreak of war in 1939 he was appointed public relations officer to the British Expeditionary Force in France. Later he moved to the Middle East where he became the conducting officer for war correspondents and struck up a close association with Field Marshal Lord Montgomery which lasted throughout the war. Wounded on several occasions, he was noted for his lack of fear. In 1943 he was awarded the Military Cross at Tobruk.

After the war he joined British Petroleum working initially in Persia from 1946 to 1951 and then, until his retirement in 1974, in London. To the international oil industry's press and public relations he brought a flamboyant style and independence of action which few contemporaries could emulate. He possessed a natural talent for dealing with people and this gift, together with a wide knowledge and experience of the Middle East, enabled him to make a substantial contribution to Anglo-Middle East relations in the postwar period right up to the time of his death.

The same qualities which made him successful in his career were equally conspicuous in his private life. His robust Irish nature and elitist views were not to everyone's taste but few people could claim so wide a range of friendship limited to no one particular group or generation. He took great pleasure in bringing together unlikely combinations of people and making, as he almost invariably did, a complete success of the occasion. But above all he will be remembered as a life-enhancer, someone whose energy, humour and love of the incongruous could enliven the dullest company. Together with these attributes he also possessed a generosity of spirit and a resilience which owed much to his Roman Catholic faith.

He leaves a wife Suzie and a daughter Rima.

M NORBERT SEGARD

M Norbert Segard, a science teacher turned politician, who became one of the most respected members of the French government, died early on February 1 from the cancer which in the past five years had destroyed his health, but not his spirit. He was 58.

He was born on October 3, 1922, at Aniche in the north. His roots and career were always very much centred in that region. After obtaining a doctorate in physics he began a teaching career in Lille and later in Paris. In 1956 he became head of the higher electronic and automation laboratory there.

He moved on to become head of the Higher Agricultural Institute in Lille in 1963 and then of the Technical Institute at Roubaix. From 1967 until 1975 he sat as a member of the Higher Council of National Education, eventually as a member of its permanent commission.

His career led him into politics when he was appointed to the Regional Economic Development Commission for the North in 1970 and three years later, at the age of 52, he decided to stand as a Gaullist candidate in the area. Within a year his talents had been spotted by M Jacques Chirac, who was then Prime Minister, and he was appointed junior Minister and then Minister for External Trade.

He worked indefatigably during the 19 months he spent at that ministry, travelling over 190,000 miles and visiting 40 countries. He instituted a number of new credit systems and special aid for small and medium-sized firms seeking to export.

In 1976 he was put in charge of the French Post Office and with equal vigour set about the task of restructuring it. The day before he died, fittingly, it was announced that the 100,000th public telephone had been installed in France. When he took over there were scarcely 20,000.

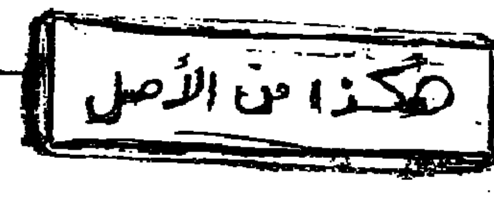
But ill-health began to sap his strength and last November he asked to be relieved of his busy ministry. It was both in respect of his talents and honour of his courage that he was found a seat in the Cabinet running a new department intended to prepare the way for France to integrate new technological advances into everyday life.

He found time to play a very active part in the Gaullist Party, and was one of the eight chosen in 1974 to design and restructure the party. He also accepted the hopeless challenge in 1977 of trying to become Mayor of Lille, even though the city is a Socialist stronghold.

He had three children of his own but adopted three others and was a devout Roman Catholic. He was believed to be the first public figure in France to admit he was suffering from cancer, but at the time said: "I am not going to fight against death but for life".

How tartan is riding out the recession, page 17

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



National debt a headache for Mr Reagan, page 17

Stock markets
FT Ind 469.8 up 3.5
FT Gilts 69.26 up 0.05

Sterling
$2.3490 down 180
Index 104.0 down 1.2

Dollar
Index 98.6 down 0.2
DM 2.1212 down 75 pts

Gold
$495.50 down $10

Money
3 mnth sterling 13⅞-13⅝
3 month Euro $ 16¾-17
6 month Euro $ 16¼-16⅝

IN BRIEF

£75m export contracts for Vosper Shipbuilders

Export contracts worth £75m ave been won by Vosper hornycroft, part of State-wned British Shipbuilders. hey are the largest orders aken by the company since ationalization three years ago.

Orders for two fast patrol oats valued at £45m have been laced with the company by the ultan of Oman's Navy. The 56 netre-long vessels are the argest designed by the company and the latest order follows an earlier Omani order a ear ago.

The Royal New Zealand Navy has awarded a £20m contract to the company for assistance in onverting one of its frigates.

The third element in the ackage of export business is contract from the Government f Bahamas for the design of defence force base.

Reliant quotation

Reliant, the motor group, ould soon regain a stock arket listing, less than a year ter its publicly-owned shares ere acquired by J. F. Nash curities, the engineering conomerate. Nash plans to give shareholders 130 shares in eliant for every 100 Nash they vn. The new shares will then quoted on the unlisted curities market.

Financial Editor, page 17

Beer output down

Beer production last year at .6 million bulk barrels—an erage of 31 million pints a y—was the lowest annual proiction since 1975 and was own 3.8 per cent on 1979, the ewers Society said.

Taiwan forgery pledge

The Taiwan Government is to ke drastic action against ounterfeiters of car componits and textiles after repreentations by a House of Comons delegation on a recent sit to Taipei.

House prices up 1pc

The average price of a house as £24,700 in the final quarter f 1980, according to new mortage figures published yesteray. This was 1 per cent higher han in the third quarter of the ear, and compared with the ame period in 1979, prices ere 7 per cent higher.

Plea to save refinery

The Prime Minister is to be sked to intervene in the camaign to win a reprieve for the ate & Lyle sugar refinery at iverpool which is to close in pril with the loss of 1,570 bs.

Airfix buyers

Over a dozen potential buyers ave expressed interest in all part of the collapsed Airfix ndustries group, according to rnst Whinney, one of two eceivers called in last week to e toys company.

Wall Street down

The Dow Jones industrial erage closed at 932.17, down .10 on Wall Street's Friday ose. The $-SDR exchange rate as 1.24550 which the £-SDR as 0.527754.

Sterling tumbles as markets anticipate early cut in MLR

By Frances Williams

The Prime Minister's weekend remarks that the exchange rate would be a factor in influencing government policy on interest rates sent the pound tumbling on foreign exchange markets yesterday, as operators anticipated an early cut in minimum lending rate. The Bank of England intervened to steady the fall.

Sterling 1.80 cents against the dollar from Friday's close to finish the day at $2.3490, its lowest level for six weeks. It also lost ground against the German, Swiss, French and Japanese currencies.

Sterling's effective exchange rate index as calculated by the Bank of England, published on a revised basis for the first time yesterday, fell 1.2 from its closing level on Friday to 104.0. The revised index, weighted according to 1977 rather than 1972 world trade flows, has been rebased on an average of 1975=100.

The dollar opened sharply lower on Friday's close after a bout of selling in the Far East prompted by easier United States interest rates, by the fall in American money supply figures published on Friday and by comments from the Reagan Administration on the "economic mess" it had inherited.

The dollar recovered later to close 75 points lower against a stronger Deutche Mark at DM2.1212. Its trade-weighted index, also calculated on a revised basis from yesterday, ended the day at 98.6, down 0.2. Gold resumed its downward trend, falling $10 to $496.50, in response to the firmer dollar.

The revised effective exchange rate index for sterling gives a lower weight to the dollar, down from one-third to one-quarter, and higher weights to European currencies.

As a result, the new index shows a faster appreciation of the exchange rate over the past year or so, because the pound gained considerably more against Continental currencies than against the dollar.

The average index level for the fourth quarter of 1980 over a year previously was 12.2 per cent on the old basis and 12.75 per cent on the new basis. Over that period the pound rose 19.1 per cent against European currencies compared with just 10.6 per cent against the dollar.

The expectation of a further reduction in MLR before too long brought further falls in money market interest rates yesterday and allowed the government broker to sell further tranches

Remaining supplies of last week's £1,000m issue of Exchequer 12 per cent convertible stock 1985 were quickly exhausted early yesterday. The government broker also sold remaining supplies of the high taxpayers stock Treasury 3 per cent 1985 "A", and was able to activate the long "tap", Treasury 12¼ per cent 1999 "A". Sales of the latter were thought to have been relatively modest, however.

Overall, the gilt edged market failed to hold on to initial gains of up to ¾ of a point as buying interest dried up and the market pondered what the monetary authorities are likely to do next.

Financial Editor, page 17

Governor says end of recession is in sight

By Melvyn Westlake

Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, last night struck a more hopeful note when surveying the prospects for the world economy than has recently been heard in some other quarters.

He told an audience at the Overseas Bankers Club that it now looked as if "the worst of the (world) recession is behind us". At some point later this year, he said, the world economy would start growing again.

In some ways the international community had responded better to the second oil shock than to the first. But, although the end of the recession was in sight, expectations about the upturn were less buoyant than in previous cycles, he said. Few people expected the world economy to surge ahead rapidly, as there remained major potential constraints on economic growth.

These constraints were of three kinds: the vulnerability of the world to interruptions in its oil supply; the continuing need of many countries to finance the trade deficits resulting from the higher oil price; and inflation.



Mr Gordon Richardson: world economy soon to start growing.

The Governor appeared particularly optimistic about the ability of oil consuming nations to conserve energy and cooperate in maintaining orderly market conditions.

Energy use per unit of gross national product in the leading industrial countries had declined by over 10 per cent since 1973, and there was scope for major savings.

On the question of the oil-induced trade deficits faced by many countries, the Governor said he did not doubt that most deficits would continue to be financed in an orderly way.

He accepted that there were risks, and these were not diminishing. The industrial nations could not be indifferent to the problems facing the very poorest countries, Mr Richardson said. However, he appeared much less concerned about the problem of financing oil deficits than, for example, the World Bank.

The need to combat inflation was the reason for the cautious stance of fiscal and monetary policy in many countries.

He hoped that inflation could be brought down in the United States, permitting a reduction in the absolute level of interest rates.

Hugh Stephenson, page 17

IMF keen to enhance appeal of the SDR

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Feb 2

The board of directors of the International Monetary Fund is planning to enhance the appeal of the Special Drawing Right and intends to boost the Fund's financial reserves.

The IMF's plans, however, could be frustrated by the Reagan administration and by further appreciation in the foreign exchange value of the dollar. Morgan Guaranty Trust Company has predicted a firm dollar this year, and Dr Henry Wallich, a governor of the Federal Reserve Board, has said that United States policies are aimed at securing a strong dollar.

The IMF board plans to raise the rate of interest paid to holders of SDRs to strengthen the unit's attractiveness to public holders and to private financial markets. So far some $27,000m worth of SDRs have been allocated to the IMF's 141 member governments.

The raising of the interest rate on the SDR is vital if the Fund is to issue SDR-denominated notes in private capital markets to strengthen the volume of its resources available for loan. The yield on the SDR today is 80 per cent of the market yield of the weighted basket of currencies which comprise the SDR unit. The board is likely to approve a rise in the rate to 100 per cent.

It is improbable that this decision will be arrived at without American agreement. A delay could result from the confusion that exists at the United States Treasury as a result of the change in administrations.

Mr Sam Cross, the American executive director of the IMF, has resigned to join the New York Federal Reserve Bank and he has not been replaced. The Treasury does not have an assistant secretary for international affairs yet, and Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, stated that no consideration had yet been given to the IMF questions.

Hodge finance house loses full status as commercial bank

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sir Julian Hodge's Commercial Bank of Wales has been refused recognition as a bank under the 1979 Banking Act and it is planning an appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Bank of England which administers the 1979 Act refused to comment on or confirm the decision which was announced yesterday by the Commercial Bank of Wales.

Instead of full banking status, Sir Julian's company has been granted a full licence to take deposits, the junior status awarded to financial institutions under the 1979 Act.

A statement from the Commercial Bank, issued last night, said: "Although this decision enables present activities to continue and relations with customers will remain unchanged, the future progress of the bank will have to overcome some disadvantages and will be hindered unless it is recognized as a bank.

"For example the bank will not be able to enjoy its present name, a name which is a household word in Wales and which has, over the years, been associated by the public with the enviable reputation the bank has established.

"The board of the Commercial Bank of Wales feels strongly that every effort must be made to continue the use of its present prestigious title and status."

The 1979 Act lays down a number of criteria such as range of services which financial institutions must satisfy in order to be awarded full banking status.

The Commercial Bank of Wales, an unquoted company, was started in 1972 by Sir Julian Hodge, who remains its largest shareholder.

The controversial Welsh banker who began his career as a clerk with the Great Western Railway, made his fortune through Banking and insurance interests and became a millionaire when his Gwent & West of England Enterprises went public in 1961.

In 1973 the Hodge Group which he headed was sold to Standard Chartered for £55m shortly before the secondary banking crisis. However, criticism was later levied at the second mortgage activities in which the Hodge Group was involved.

In 1978 Sir Julian resigned from the Hodge Group shortly after the Office of Fair Trading had indicated that it might not grant consumer credit licences to both Julian S. Hodge Bank and Hodge Finance.

Yesterday the Commercial Bank of Wales announced results for 1980 showing pretax profit of £1.08m, compared with £1.31m the previous year.

Mr N. Thornton, a director of the bank, said yesterday there were "no adverse reasons" for the refusal. "It is purely a quantitative problem."

TSB protest over loans talks

By Bryan Appleyard

The Trustee Savings Banks have written to the Department of Industry protesting at their exclusion from consultations with the leading banks over a loan guarantee scheme for small businesses.

The Government began negotiations yesterday with the main banks and the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation over an experimental scheme which would involve the injection of up to £250m in Government-underwritten loans into the small business sector. But neither the TSB nor the Co-Operative Bank have been invited.

For both the irony is that they were the only two banks to come out with full-blooded support for the idea when they were canvassed by the Union of Independent Companies (UIC) in December. The four big clearers, having initially opposed the idea, have so far been non-committal in response to the UIC.

A spokesman for the Co-op Bank said yesterday they had not been invited to the initial discussions but would hope to be able to participate in any guarantee scheme.

But it is understood that civil servants in the Department of Industry have expressed the view that the TSB, which is bidding £110m for United Dominions Trust, is not sufficiently experienced in the field of small company loans. It is thought the Co-op may be excluded for the same reason.

Mr Leonard Bakewell, general manager (services) of the TSB, said he had written to Miss Anne Mueller, the deputy secretary at the DoI, who had instigated the discussions with the banks, protesting about the TSB's exclusion. He acknowledged that the TSB was a relatively small lender to the sector but said he believed it should be involved.

Financial Editor, page 17

Steel company staff volunteer pay cuts

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

White collar staff employed by Manchester Steel, a private steelmaker, have agreed to take pay cuts to match losses of between £50 and £60 a week being suffered by production workers on short time.

The company, which is one of the largest in the independent sector, is suffering from a 50 per cent drop in demand for its products.

Yesterday Mr Hans Sundt, managing director of the company which is Norwegian owned, blamed much of the private sector's problems on state-owned steel industries throughout Europe which, he said, were undercutting private companies on a wide range of products.

Speaking at a press conference he said that the state steel companies—including the British Steel Corporation which this year is being supported by nearly £1,000m of tax payers' money—were being allowed to fight in the marketplace using government money.

Since the crisis in the steel industry deepened last summer, Manchester Steel, owned by the Elkem industrial group, has like other companies been forced to introduce short time working. Depending on the state of the order book, the company's 850 workers have been working alternate weeks, or operating two weeks on, two weeks off.

This has meant that production workers have been receiving only 70 per cent of their basic weekly wage; under guaranteed wage agreements. Because of the low level of orders, the men have been losing up to £60 a week in overtime and bonus payments.

But, with union cooperation, staff employees from the managing director to junior typists have agreed to take pay cuts.

Mr Sundt emphasized that he considered that the cheap selling prices constituted a European problem and was not restricted to British Steel.

"All over Europe, we have the situation where big government owned units are supported by their governments. We accept fair competition and we expect the money to be used to close inefficient units, but when it is being used to undercut us we are up against a heavy problem", Mr Sundt said.

"As a result we are running into substantial losses. It is clear that as a private company this cannot go on for ever. We feel it is important that the man in the street as well as the politician should realize what is happening."

The company was not planning redundancies, he said, and was determined to maintain its operations in the United Kingdom.

Later today, Sir Keith Joseph, Industry Secretary, will meet senior representatives of Duport and Hadfields to discuss their difficulties in the light of the Government's restructuring plans for the steel industry.

Lonrho's 150p Fraser offer may not be final

By Philip Robinson

Lonrho yesterday effectively withdrew an earlier statement that its 150p a share takeover bid for the House of Fraser will not be increased.

In a statement Lonrho said it had had its attention drawn to recent newspaper comment on the terms of the offer for shares in House of Fraser. The trading conglomerate said it had to "make it clear that in terms of Rule 22 of the Takeover Code, Lonrho has made no positive statements as to its future intentions otherwise than in its formal press announcement."

That rule of the Takeover Code states that a company bidding for another will be bound by any positive statement which it makes as to the finality of its offer, unless it is withdrawn immediately.

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland Lonrho's chief executive, said that his 150p a share offer was final at a Press conference last Wednesday. This followed a House of Fraser board meeting at which Sir Hugh Fraser was dismissed as chairman and Lonrho launched its bid.

Mr Rowland was asked whether this was the group's final offer for Britain's largest stores group and he replied: "No higher offer will be forthcoming."

He reiterated in a newspaper report that the bid price would not be raised. As a result, the Takeover Panel contacted Lonrho, pointing out the details of Rule 22.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director, said last night: "If a newspaper asked us questions and we were to say something, one has got to bear in mind that official documents from now on are the only ones that matter.

"I'm not saying whether Mr Rowland may or may not have said a particular thing. Whatever may have been said to you by anyone in this company in the past, our offer is the offer and that's it."

Professor Roland Smith, non-executive chairman of House of Fraser said: "Lonrho has probably realized that 150p a share does not represent anything like the real value of the business. I expect them to raise the offer. Ever since I became involved with the House of Fraser, I have said Lonrho would make a full scale bid for the company. My timing has not been as good as it might be, but 150p a share is not competitive."

Professor Smith said he had received no approaches from counter-bidders. "We are not even contemplating counter-bidders—the merits of the company will see Lonrho off."

Welsh trade team for Japan

By Tim Jones

A trade delegation from Wales will leave for Japan soon in an effort to attract more high technology jobs to the Principality. The aim is to combat the erosion of traditional employment in the declining basic industries of steel and coal.

The delegation will be led by Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, who has recently returned from the United States where he received more than a dozen inquiries from leading companies interested in establishing a base in Wales.

When he addressed more than 50 Japanese businessmen in London yesterday, the guests of the Development Corporation for Wales, Mr Edwards emphasized their companies would be welcome to establish factories in any part of the United Kingdom although he hoped they would favour Wales.

Many leading Japanese companies are established in Wales and there is growing speculation that Nissan, Japan's second largest motor corporation will establish a £300m plant there.

There was no Nissan representative present at yesterday's meeting.

Tourism boosted by rate support grant

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

New arrangements for rate support grant funding for spending on tourism are likely to result in around £16m next year for English local authorities.

The change could encourage some councils to improve tourism facilities in order to gear up their flow of visitors. Under the new system this would produce more rate support grant aid.

The new funding system, which will also be operated in Wales, was welcomed yesterday by Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board (ETB) as specifically identifying tourism as a grant-related expediture. That should encourage local authorities to look more to tourism as a way of recovering funds from central government, he said.

Some areas such as London are expected to gain from the new system, but others like Stratford upon Avon, Oxford or Cambridge who attract largely daytime visitors, could suffer disproportionately.

The new rate support grant system, operating from April next year, would be based on the number of nights spent by visitors in a local authority area over each year. The aid given would be towards the cost of services, from refuse collection to the running costs of council swimming pools, golf courses and similar facilities.

Local authorities have previously had help towards the cost of such services but until now it has been related to their actual spending and not the tourist flow in their area.

"What this new scheme does do—and we have long advocated this—is to signal to local authorities the relevance of tourism in benefiting a local economy and meeting its costs", he said.

But he recognised as unfair the principle of calculating the grant on the number of overnight stays. It would avoid unfair treatment of certain areas if some formula could be found to include the number of day visitors Mr Montague said. Initial calculations have suggested that Stratford would get around £33,000 support under the new system, whereas if day visitors were taken into account the amount would probably be multiplied several times.

Mr Montague is to chair a committee from the regional tourist boards to look into this problem.

Weak demand puts pressure on Opec prices

By Nicholas Hirst

The highest oil prices being charged by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) appear to be coming under pressure as demand remains weak.

Despite the loss of around 3 million barrels a day as a result of the Iran/Iraq war, prices in spot markets have come back from their highest levels last year. Algeria and Nigeria were reported by the influential *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* yesterday to have eliminated the premiums they had been charging on key grades of high quality crude.

Their official prices of $40 a barrel remain the highest in Opec, but the decision to cut out premiums represents a recognition that the tightness caused initially in the market by the war is slackening.

Fears of another rush for supplies and consequent sharp price rises are lessening. Representatives of the governing board of the International Energy Agency meeting in Paris today will receive reports showing that although the relative calm in oil markets remains uncertain, with care there will be no excessive bidding for supplies during the first quarter.

The price gap between different quality crudes may be continuing to narrow.

British Petroleum has confirmed it will be paying a premium of $1.80 for the first three months of a new nine-month contract to take 65,000 barrels a day from Iran. The premium is to be paid above the official prices of $36 and $37 a barrel for heavier and lighter crudes which BP will take in proportions according to its refinery needs.

Shell also is believed to be paying the premium on its contract now thought to be for 110,000 barrels a day.

Iran's crude is considerably lower in quality than that of Nigeria. Kuwait's is heavier still, but it is retaining premiums of $5 to $6.50 over official prices on some of its production in advance of renegotiation of contracts on April 1.

Iran is negotiating a number of deals to expand its exports now that all economic sanctions concerned with the taking of the hostages have been lifted.

Japanese refiners are reported to be negotiating to resume deliveries at around 300,000 barrels a day. Officials in Iran say that exports have been running at 1.2 million barrels a day, with one million from the huge Kharg Island terminal, which Iraq has failed to eliminate with its air attacks, and 200,000 barrels a day from the smaller Lavan. Exports were halted completely at the start of the war.

Iraq meanwhile has asked Syria to agree not to export refined petroleum products to Iran as a condition of its reopening its pipeline to Banias. It has been exporting intermittently to Turkey, but together the two lines can take more than 1 million barrels a day.

If Iran and Iraq resume production at former rates, Saudi Arabia next year could halve its output, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, said in Jeddah.

The Soviet Union, meanwhile, is both cutting its exports to the West and raising prices.

The United Arab Emirates, which has yet to announce formally an increase in its 1981 prices, was reported to have decided on a $3 rise to between $36 and $37 for its main crudes.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

ercantile House	30p to 630p	De La Rue	15p to 695p
ilford Docks	12p to 125p	Sotheby B P	13p to 440p
adbroke	9p to 259p	Burnett H'shire	10p to 893p
n All	6p to 722p	Ultramar	6p to 491p
aden Carrier	6p to 196p	Manson Fin	7p to 77p

Falls

oken Hill	35p to 685p	Kinross	26p to 504p
oyds Bank	17p to 328p	Marievale Con	14p to 144p
rrison Cros	13p to 762p	Polly Peck	9p to 176p
sky Oil	10p to 672p	RTZ	7p to 378p
rclays Bank	11p to 395p	Elsburg Gold	7p to 148p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
stralia $	2.09	2.01	Norway Kr	13.21	12.66
stria Sch	36.65	34.65	Portugal Esc	135.00	127.00
lgium Fr	82.25	78.75	South Africa Rd	2.17	2.02
nada $	2.895	2.815	Spain Pes	199.75	191.25
nmark Kr	15.85	15.15	Sweden Kr	11.15	10.65
nland Mkk	9.81	9.36	Switzerland Fr	4.69	4.46
ance Fr	11.82	11.32	USA $	2.42	2.35
rmany DM	5.14	4.91	Yugoslavia Dnr	89.00	84.00
eece Dr	122.00	115.00			
ngkong $	12.85	12.25			
land Pd	1.38	1.32			
ly Lir	2470.00	2360.00			
pan Yn	505.00	480.00			
therlands Gld	5.57	5.33			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

US group in search of £10m investment for Continental expansion

Europe's burghers wooed by fast food King

Hamburger chains, along with the world's other popular fast food stores, are acquiring international investment respectability.

This week, Burger King, one of America's leading chains, is doing the round of Swiss and German banks in an attempt to persuade European investors to support a DM50m (£10m) loan issue.

Underwritten by Goldman Sachs of New York and the Frankfurt bank BHF, Burger King needs the cash for its European expansion drive into the fast food market.

Over the past two years the United States fast food chains, such as McDonalds and Burger King, have looked to Europe, especially Britain and Germany as the next stage in sales development.

In Britain there are only three Burger King restaurants—the latest one opened yesterday in London's Queensway—but over the next five years the group hopes to have opened as many as 50.

At the moment all three United Kingdom Burger King restaurants are wholly owned by the company, which is a subsidiary of the United States foods group Pillsbury. Expansion, however, is more likely to come through a franchising operation which is how most of the Burger King restaurants in the United States are run.

Already one such deal has been signed with the music agency and management company MAM which is committed to spend around £5m on opening up to 10 Burger King restaurants around London. A further big franchising agreement is expected to be signed this week.

Mr Zane Leshner, executive vice-president and managing director of the group's international division, says he hopes to open as many as 200 outlets between now and 1985 throughout Europe, compared with only 33 at present.

Long-term growth will come through the franchising system, but it is unlikely to attract small individual businessmen; the financial restrictions are too tough. For a start any individual who fancies running a fast food restaurant must be able to show he has net assets of at least £200,000, pay an initial lump sum royalty of around £15,000, and afford a continuous royalty of 4 per cent of sales and a similar advertising contribution.

Burger King estimates the average cost of an outlet in London at about £400,000, of which around £250,000 is attributable to the acquisition of premises and fitting out.

Burger King is not alone in launching a big assault on Britain's £2,639m eating-out market. Competition from the United States rivals, most notably McDonalds, and the home-grown groups is becoming increasingly stiff. Food companies such as Trusthouse Forte, United Biscuits, Grand Metropolitan and Bejam are all eyeing the expanding market and are opening their own fast food outlets.

Most hamburger chains at present are concentrated in and around London but operators are hoping to take them out to the high streets throughout the country.

By the middle of this decade Britain is likely to play its part in turning America's national dish into a universal one.

Baron Phillips



EEC starts inquiry into 'dumping' of TV sets

The European Commission has begun investigating a complaint that portable black and white television sets made in South Korea have been dumped on European markets.

The complaint, which was lodged by the European Association of Consumer Electronics Manufacturers (EACEM), alleges that 12 and 14-inch sets have been sold in the Community at an estimated dumping margin of 21 per cent.

Imports into the Community of black and white portable televisions from South Korea totalled 814,000 units last year, accounting for 22 per cent of the market, compared with 120,000 units or just under 5 per cent of the market in 1976.

The evidence presented by EACEM alleges that EEC manufacturers suffered losses estimated at £35m in 1979 through sales lost to dumped imports and depressed price levels caused by them.

EEC improvement

Economic activity picked up somewhat in the European Community late last year and the EEC's trade position improved, but unemployment worsened, according to the European Commission's latest monthly economic survey.

Arco Australia venture

Atlantic Richfield Co, the United States group which owns the *Observer* newspaper, said it plans a $350m (£147.86m) coal project in Queensland, Australia, with a consortium of Japanese and Australian companies.

Taiwan-Japan car plan

Toyota and Nissan the Japanese motor manufacturers, have submitted investment plans to the Taiwan Government for the production of 200,000 compact cars in a joint venture with Taiwanese companies.

Japanese savings

A sharp rise in Post Office savings has been draining funds out of Japanese financial institutions including banks, investment trusts and securities firms, a Japanese newspaper survey says.

Cost of living rise

Portuguese living costs rose 2.9 per cent last December, taking the cost of living index, base 1976, to 239. Inflation rose 13.1 per cent in the 12 months since December 1979.

Australia oil hope

Australia could become 90 per cent self-sufficient in oil by the early 1990s, according to Senator John Carrick, the Energy Minister.

Rupee revalued

The Reserve Bank of India revalued the rupee against sterling by 0.52 per cent to a new middle rate of 19.30 to a pound from 19.40.

Ministers reluctantly admit to overall rise, possibly 10pc in two years

'Thatcherism' adding to tax burden

The first two years of the present Government's term of office may show that the overall burden of taxation in Britain has risen by as much as 10 per cent. This would be an astonishing outcome for a Government which set out with such determination to reduce taxation. It demonstrates, however, the difficulty of achieving such a goal in a modern welfare state with high unemployment.

Ministers now reluctantly admit that the tax burden has had to be raised. Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, conceded this recently when he addressed an audience in Zurich in a talk entitled: "Thatcherism in Practice: a Progress Report."

However, ministers have not publicly acknowledged the extent of the increase in the tax burden. Both the present Government's Budgets—in 1979 and 1980—increased taxation in real terms: the first by raising marginal rates and the second by reducing the real value of tax allowances.

The result is that all taxes, including local authority rates and National Insurance contributions, will be equivalent to about 45 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product (at factor cost) in the present financial year. This compares with 40 per cent in 1978-79, the last year of the Labour administration.

In 1973-74, the last year of the Heath Government, the proportion of gdp accounted for by taxation was 38½ per cent. But although the increase in the tax burden over the lifetime of the succeeding Labour Government was only 1½ percentage points, it did rise much higher and then fall back during that Government's time in office.

All taxes as a percentage of gross domestic product (at factor cost)

year	percentage
1973-74	38½
1978-79	40
1979-80	42½
1980-81	44-45*

(* *Times* estimate)

At the time of the last Budget, the tax burden was forecast to rise to 45.7 per cent in 1980-81. However, the increase may actually prove to be less than that. The recession has led to a lower level of revenue from some taxes than had been expected.

It seems quite probable the tax burden will rise still further in 1981-82. The next Budget on March 10, is expected to be no more than "neutral", with some tax increases offset by tax reductions.

However, inflation tends to increase the tax burden without any deliberate act of policy by the Chancellor. To avoid this, he has to adjust tax allowances and thresholds. In addition, National Insurance contributions are going up.

It has been widely assumed that the Government will take advantage of the rising revenue from North Sea oil and gas in coming years to reduce other taxes, particularly direct taxes on individuals. Now it seems that much of this oil revenue will have to be used to reduce the tax burden to the 1979 levels.

An indication of what the overall increase in the tax burden means for individuals has been provided in recent answers to parliamentary questions. According to one such answer, a married couple with two children living on the average earnings of one person, would have seen 24.8 per cent of income taken in direct tax and National Insurance contributions, in 1980-81. This compares with a figure of 23.7 per cent in the previous year and 24 per cent in 1978-79.

A separate answer given in the House of Lords to Lord Kaldor last summer estimated that indirect taxes would consume about 13.1 per cent of the total income of a man on average earnings in the present financial year, compared with 12.4 per cent in 1979-80. The equivalent figure for 1978-79 was around 10½ per cent.

The man on two-thirds average earnings would experience a proportionately greater increase in the amount of his income absorbed by indirect taxes. In his case, the figure was estimated to rise to 15.4 per cent this year from 14.5 per cent in 1979-80 and probably only about 13 per cent in 1978-79.

Melvyn Westlake

Call for new public spending cut

By John Whitmore

The Government should consider further cuts in public sector spending and borrowing, as well as a tighter monetary policy, according to the second *Annual Monetary Review* from the Centre for Banking and International Finance of the City University.

By making additional reductions in public expenditure and reducing the public sector borrowing requirement, the Government would be able to make the cuts in interest rates required to stimulate the private sector of the economy and create more jobs.

The review suggests that the Government should aim for a PSBR equivalent to no more than 3½ per cent of gross domestic product in the 1981-82 financial year, compared with the likely outturn of around 5½ per cent in the present financial year.

It also suggests that the target for sterling M3 growth should be cut back to a 5 to 9 per cent range.

If the Government does not attempt to get back on the original medium-term course that it set itself, the review gives warning that the outcome is likely to be rising inflation and renewed recession in 1982.

The review also considers that an essential part of the Government's policy should be the adoption of a full monetary-base method of monetary control.

Costain in European consortium to build 'cheap' Channel tunnel

By John Huxley

A European consortium which includes Costain, the British building and civil engineering group, have submitted plans to the Government for a low-cost Channel tunnel.

The European Channel Tunnel Group plans a bored, single rail track tunnel costing £635m at 1980 prices. The proposal sent to Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Transport, also includes financing suggestions.

According to N. M. Rothschild, the merchant bank advising the group, private finance could be raised without government or railway guarantees.

The proposal is the fifth for a Channel crossing to be submitted to the Government and, so far, by a long way the cheapest. Several groups gave evidence to a Commons select committee on the subject during last summer and autumn. The committee's report is expected to be published soon.

Transport ministers hope that one of the schemes will be approved by the end of this year.

The European Channel Tunnel Group, which is chaired by Sir David Nicholson, a member of the European parliament, includes Costain and three other leading European contractors, Spie Batignolles, of France, Royal Bos Kalis Westminster of The Netherlands, and Philip Holzmann of West Germany.

The group has been studying five possible tunnels ranging in cost from about £550m to more than £3,000m. It now favours a scheme requiring a 6.02 metre internal diameter tunnel, similar to that proposed by British Rail and SNCF, the French railways group.

Textile retailers more confident, survey says

By Our Industrial Staff

Business confidence among textile and clothing retailers has shown a marked improvement over the past four months, according to an industry survey published yesterday.

Manufacturers, however, remain generally pessimistic, and more than 80 per cent now report that they are working at below capacity.

Altogether 38 per cent of retailers said they were more optimistic, with only 4 per cent reporting a downturn in confidence. The balance of 34 per cent compares with a negative balance of 20 per cent last October.

"The improvement in business confidence seems to stem not so much from improved sales, as from the fact that the stock position now appears to be under control", according to the survey, which was jointly compiled by the Confederation of British Industry and the National Economic Development Office.

Sales volumes continue to drop, although the CBI/NEDO suggests that there has been some recovery in the value of those sales. On balance, retailers expect an improvement in sales over the next four months, but the number taking this view is one of the lowest ever.

Retailers have managed to reduce stocks by making severe cut-backs in orders. Further cuts are expected.

The real McCoy, page 17

Managers present plan for recovery

By Patricia Tisdall

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was urged by managers yesterday to implement a five point programme for industrial recovery.

In a letter to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British Institute of Management warned of "growing unease" of many members. It said that action was urgently needed if chances of recovery were not to be frustrated.

The BIM wants the Government to recognize the need for a healthy, competitive and expanding manufacturing industry. It also wants a substantial reduction in interest rates and tighter control of expenditure in the non-market sector and argues for investing oil revenues in public services.

It wants to see a reduction in public sector pay settlements to below the level of inflation, and the setting up of a national forum to debate the economy.

In another submission to the Chancellor, a united front against any increase in direct taxes in next month's budget is presented by six business representative organizations.

The letter's six signatories are: the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, the Association of Independent Businesses, the Institute of Directors; the National Chamber of Trade, the National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses and the Union of Independent Companies.

Pub games inquiry nears completion

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Office of Fair Trading is nearing the end of a preliminary investigation, which has already extended over three months, of claimed anti-competitive agreements between brewers and tenants over installation of video games in pubs.

The thoroughness of the inquiry has increased the likelihood that the OFT could decide, probably this month, on a formal investigation. That could lead to the case being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for closer scrutiny.

The OFT initially considered whether the agreements were restrictive and should go on the restrictive practices register as suggested by the National Union of Licensed Victuallers whose complaints about the agreements first led to the investigation. However, the OFT is now more likely to act under the more recent competition legislation.

That would probably mean that agreements between one of the larger brewers and its tenants would be investigated as a test case for the industry.

Agreements between brewers and tenants concerning fruit machines in pubs might also be brought into the investigation. There has been friction for some time between tenants and brewers about sharing profits from these, estimated to be nearing £400m a year.

As well as the fruit machines, public houses increasingly have been turning to video games, pools tables and other attractions to counter steeply falling beer sales. But the tenants have been asked to agree to handing over as much as 60 per cent of the takings of video machines to the brewers to which they are tied, according to the union.

MPs hear of £6m modifications to Concorde

Technology News

Airframe and engine modifications to British Airways' supersonic Concorde fleet have been disclosed to the Commons Industry and Trade Committee. Two structural modifications have been identified: a "spar cap" change to the wing; and a "crown" modification to the upper fuselage.

All BA Concordes should be fitted with the wing-spar modification by November. The fuselage modification is likely to be required but is not yet definite; if it is incorporated, all BA Concordes should be completely modified by mid-1983.

Estimated cost to the airline of these modifications is about £6m.

Rolls-Royce have told the committee that the combustion chamber and the high-pressure compressor are the cause of problems which limit the operating life of the Concorde's Olympus 593 engines. In addition, engine accessory drives and control systems still require attention by Rolls-Royce and SNECMA, its French partner, to achieve a satisfactory reliability.

A new combustion chamber has been developed which, it is expected, will have a "life" at least twice that of the present version. This is about to enter service. Another modification has been developed which should double the life of the high-pressure compressor.

These and other improvements have been agreed technically by the engine companies and the airlines, together with reliability objectives for 1983, in a programme known as Concorde Operational Reliability Improvement Plan (CORIP). The aim is to reduce the costs per flying hour, and in particular the cost of spare parts, engine removals and operational disruptions.

Because of Concorde's low utilization—between 1,600 and 2,400 flying hours per aircraft in British Airways—engine running hours in service are being accumulated slowly. Accumulated service experience to date is only about 190,000 hours, though some individual engines have completed more than 4,000 hours.

The 190,000 figure is about one-tenth of that normally expected on a subsonic aircraft at a similar stage.

Another possible effect of the low flying rate of the Concordes may be to curtail the expected period of testing of a complete Concorde airframe specimen in an elaborate fatigue-test installation at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

The specimen is subjected to simulated "flights" in which the temperatures and pressures of actual flights are reproduced. The number of simulated flying hours by the test specimen is kept well ahead of the number of hours flown by any Concorde in service.

In written evidence to the committee, British Aerospace stated that the specimen would continue to undergo this testing until 1989. In answer to questions, Mr Mick Wilde, managing director of the company's Weybridge-Bristol division, said that on present assumptions the fatigue testing would continue until 1986; but the company had recently reviewed whether this might be changed to 1984 in view of the low utilizations in service.

The cost of this fatigue testing, plus a small amount of similar testing on a smaller scale at Bristol, was about £6m a year, Mr Wilde said.

Energy savings by precise heat control

Significant energy savings are possible through the more precise and automated control of heating, cooling and ventilating systems in commercial buildings and of various industrial processes, according to Honeywell Control Systems.

The total potential for automated control systems in commercial buildings in Europe, Mr Cyril Cowell, of the company's commercial division, said was probably between 60,000 and 80,000 sites. At least £100,000 could be saved annually in energy costs at each site, so that the total saving could be £6,000m a year or about 400 million barrels of oil.

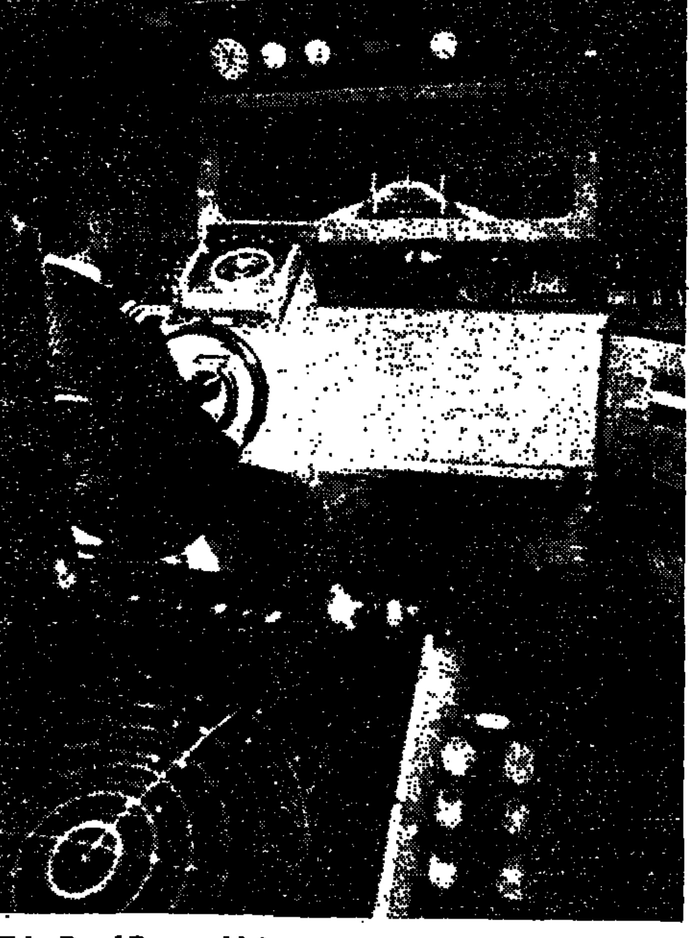
In the United Kingdom alone, about 70 million barrels of oil could be saved a year, equivalent to 35 days of peak North Sea production. Over the projected 20-year life of the fields, this was equivalent to an extra two years of production.

Though much was known about energy conservation technology, Mr Cowell said, and though individual projects had shown dramatic savings, there had been little penetration of the total potential for energy saving. Honeywell believed that there was a need for a national strategic plan for energy conservation, with the aim of achieving a 15 per cent improvement in the efficiency of energy use through the 1990s.

"We would advocate that one element of the plan", he said, "would be the separation of energy conservation funding in the public sector to avoid annual budgeting and short-term priority problems in order to ensure conservation progress is maintained".

Industrial furnaces and boilers also offered much scope for energy saving, Mr Gavin Kermack, of Honeywell's industrial products group, pointed out. By installing modern controls on boilers and furnaces, about 7 per cent of the energy used in United Kingdom manufacture could be saved.

This would be about 2 per cent of all the primary energy used in Britain, or the equivalent of about 70 supertankers of oil a year.



This Racal-Decca ship's bridge simulator, used to train mariners and navigators, displays the view from the bridge of a supertanker under way. A new company, Racal-Decca Systems and Simulators, has been set up to merge Racal and Decca resources in advanced computer-aided simulation, and in the study, development and management of defence systems.

Intensified drive into personal computing

An intensified drive into the personal computing market is being mounted by Hewlett-Packard, based on the company's desk-top small computers and its hand-held programmable calculators.

The new drive involves selected dealers and third-party software houses who write special-purpose programmes for the Hewlett-Packard hardware. New products announced yesterday include the HP-83 personal computer, at £1,210 plus VAT; and the HP-41CV calculator (at £169.3g plus VAT).

Kenneth Owen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Job creation through investment

From Mr P. Jackson

Sir, The January Treasury Economic Progress Report states that investment in manufacturing industry could fall by up to 20 per cent in 1981. This must be the most disturbing aspect of Britain's present economic position.

Britain's core problem is recognized as low productivity and the current financial squeeze and the resultant shedding of labour, whilst painful, is reducing unit costs. We are at the moment, however, only addressing ourselves to half the problem; the raising of productivity also requires investment which alone can provide a long-term solution no matter how high the level of unemployment.

This was recognized in Sir Derek Ezra's recent letter to *The Times* which unfortunately evoked little comment. There is now an overwhelming argument for direct Government action to stimulate investment as the necessary complement to present government policies and, at the same time, ensure that we do not allow the North Sea oil bonus to completely erode our industrial base.

Investment in plant and equipment is by far the most effective job creator and economic pump primer. It will ensure that the design and automation skills on which our future export performance depends are enhanced and provide the home references without which no plant builder can survive for long. It also gives British manufacturing industry the chance to compete with a $2.40 pound.

The Japanese and French economies provide ample evidence of the long-term benefits to industry and balance of payments through guidance of strategic investment. Who knows, if the demand for plant and technology and, therefore, engineers, is sufficiently high, then perhaps it will be realized that the Finniston report is irrelevant and the engineer's status and salary will be raised to the level of his counterpart in Germany and Japan by the only thing that matters in the long run, the market's demand for his services.

Unfortunately, whilst investment is universally recognized as a good thing, it will not happen without Government action. The public sector is too large an influence on the United Kingdom economy to be ignored. In the private sector, profitability is too low for any "bootstrap" or tax incentive proposals to yield results in an acceptable timescale. The obvious short-term answer is to prime the pump via public-sector investment. The public commitment to investment in nuclear power is an important step in the right direction. There is a clear need for further investment elsewhere, for example, in the British Steel Corporation which had to abandon its re-equipment programme and which must be completed if a 15 million-ton model, even with a reduced labour force, is to be viable in the long term. British Rail and the National Coal Board have equally clear investment needs.

This does not mean that the squeeze on revenue account does not need to continue and numbers, in public and private sectors, trimmed to internationally competitive levels. At the same time let us give the work force the tools they need to succeed in the future.

Yours faithfully,
PETER JACKSON,
Chairman, Dorset County Group,
Confederation of British Industry,
551/553 Wallisdown Road,
Pool,
Dorset BH12 5AG.
January 27.

How Canada copes with energy costs

From Lord Bowden

Sir, Our electricity is going to cost us more. The price went up by 30 per cent last year and it is to rise by another 14 per cent in the spring. No wonder we believe that the day of cheap electric power is gone. But has it?

Nuclear power in Ontario costs less today in real terms than power from Niagara cost before the War. The Canadians boast that they can generate all the cheap electricity they want for hundreds of years in their nuclear power plants. We could have it here, too, but we shan't unless the Government changes its plans.

We still suffer from the "Concorde syndrome". We build expensive products which nobody else wants. Concorde cost £2,500m. Our nuclear power programme has already cost at least as much—neither programme has brought us any export orders at all. The Government proposes to build two advanced gas cooled reactors which our people have been working on for at least 20 years, but which no one else will buy. They will cost about £1,000m each and we hope they will work better than the last lot. We are to follow them by a few American pressurized water reactors. The design has been adopted by the French, but it is no longer being built in the United States. The Canadians use a design of their own which Professor Bethe has called "a technical wonder".

The nuclear industries of the world publish tables to show what the world's great power plants are doing and how each of them has worked during its lifetime. Last year the best was Canadian, the second best was German, the next half dozen were Canadians and then came the best American station. The best of ours was 92nd and we had *three out of the ten most unreliable* stations in the world. Canadian stations were much more reliable than the pressurized water reactors and about twice as good as ours.

In 1979 the Central Electricity Generating Board sold its power to the area boards at 2.14 pence per kilowatt hour, and they claimed that the power from the Magnox reactors cost only 1.3 pence per kwh. But in 1980 the nuclear power station in Pickering, near Toronto, generated power for 0.43 English pence per kwh. Canadian nuclear power is the cheapest in the world and for a decade or more their stations have been the most reliable in the world. They will probably last twice as long as any others and cost less to decommission when the time comes.

Nuclear power stations cost us an enormous amount. Why can't we collaborate with the Canadians and use the best design in the world? Why must we be so perverse? We could do the sensible thing even yet.

Yours sincerely,
VIVIAN BOWDEN,
Pine Croft,
5 Stanhope Road,
Bowden,
Altrincham,
Cheshire, WA 14 3LB.
January 23.

Gas prices and the elderly

From the Secretary of the British Gas Corporation

Sir, Increasing energy prices mean that more people are likely to find it difficult to pay for fuel and this is rightly a cause for concern; but Mr John Bray of the Fund for Research on Ageing (Letters, January 29) really does not do justice to the price record of gas with his remarks about "perpetual price increases". It generally costs much less to heat the average home with gas than with any other fuel, even with the likely increases this year. And gas prices have risen less rapidly than prices in general over the last 10 or 15 years. A couple on old age pension with a gas cooker and fire would have had to spend some 10 per cent of their pension on gas back in 1968 but less than 5 per cent now.

One reason why this has come about is the switch to natural gas which British Gas engineered in the late 1960s and 1970s—and I do not, incidentally, accept that conversion made "our gas fires obsolete and unworkable".

Mr Bray calls on the Government to give extra aid to the elderly; for its part British Gas does all it can to help those in difficulty. It is important not to mislead people with alarmist statements about fuel prices but instead to make sure they have the facts and know how to get help and advice if they need it. During these winter months that is exactly what we in British Gas are trying hard to do.

GORDON MAY,
Secretary,
British Gas Corporation,
Rivermill House,
152 Grosvenor Road,
London SW1V 3JL.

Low-cost textile imports

From the Director, the British Clothing Industry Association

Sir, Mr Ira Brown of the British Importers' Confederation in his letter published on January 26 to show that the decline of the United Kingdom textile and clothing industries is "in the main due to improvements in productivity and to imports from certain developed countries".

The argument about increased productivity causing more job losses than low-cost imports is over-simplistic. It fails to take account of the inter-relationship of the various factors, in that increased competition from imports often leads to improved productivity which in turn can lead to increased competitiveness. An alternative logic is irrefutable—had imports not increased, more garments would have been made in Britain and fewer jobs would have been lost.

Turning to the performance of the multi-fibre arrangement and its effects on both imports and the EEC industry, it should be noted that the Commission's figures on import growth since 1976 are misleading. As 1978 was the first year of operation of the current MFA, we see no reason for taking 1976 as the base year. What happened within the MFA period was that imports grew by over 7 per cent between 1977 and 1978 and over 14 per cent between 1978 and 1979. It is with these figures that the projected annual growth rate of 6 per cent should be compared.

Sadly, Mr Brown is wrong in his general assessment that the clothing and textile industries of the other Western countries have managed to adjust to the situation and his piecemeal examples show how weak his case is. He cites Italian knitwear, German specialist fabrics and Belgian cheap carpets. There is a lot more to the clothing and textile industries than these specialist sectors. His sole clothing example is Denmark, whose industry employs only 10,000. We employ 260,000 in our clothing industry; is Mr Brown advocating that we should shed another quarter million of these workers to come down to the Danish level?

My concern is specifically for the clothing industry and for us it is low-cost imports—whether from MFA signatories or from other low-cost sources—which are the main problem and not imports from developed countries. The United Kingdom can compete on an equal footing with high cost suppliers, and it does so. This is shown by our positive balance of trade in clothing with the rest of the EEC, with Efta countries, with Australia and Japan.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD W. FRENCH,
Director,
British Clothing Industry Association,
14/16 Cockspur Street,
London SW1Y 5BL.

Examining the examiners

From Mr I. A. Page

Sir, The chairman of the Distributive Industry Training Board complains (letters, January 28) about the depth and method of research of people enquiring into his organization. But what is his Board about, if it is not writing superficial reports about other people's affairs?

At least Mr Phillips had the right not to discuss his Board's affairs with the enquirer, and the enquiry cost his Board virtually nothing. By contrast, those of us about whom he chooses to make enquiries are obliged by statute to respond, and incur severe financial penalties if we decline to meet his staff or if they do not like what they see and hear. On the other hand, if we write the banal notes they require, we are rewarded with framed certificates, display boards, car stickers and literature, all paid for by the taxpayer.

Mr Phillips' organization has wasted my company's time and money, without having the slightest effect on the way we run our business. If he can run it better than we do, why does he not set up in competition with us?

I. A. PAGE,
Managing Director,
C.T.L. Components,
Falcon House,
Littlers Close,
London, SW19 2RT.

Quality control at Rolls-Royce

From Mr Derrick Monk

Sir, I was interested to read your articles on "quality circles" by Peter Hill on January 13 in particular the section on the work in Derby. As the tutor who designed the original training package and having now trained over 30 circles at the Rolls-Royce factory in Derby, there are one or two points which I feel need amplifying.

First, it is very important to stress the training aspect of the quality circle. It is easy to imagine that because the concept and philosophy is simple that all that is needed is to get a few people together, give them "an initial introduction to problem solving", and away you go. This is far from the case, and in my experience those companies who have gone down this pathway have been unsuccessful and in some cases, it has been counter-productive.

I have been called in to some of these companies on a "salvage-operation" because no formal structured approach has been taken to the training. The original training package at Rolls-Royce was very carefully developed and has been modified and adjusted to suit the specific requirements of each circle. I have found it very important to be always aware of the fact that quality circles are, above all things, about people, not problems: the problem-solving is only a vehicle for developing people. For this reason I include data gathering and presentation, minute taking, report writing and management presentations, so that all the circle members have opportunity for self-development.

Secondly, the quality circle concept demands a fundamental change in the attitude of management. The circles at Rolls-Royce and other companies which have failed (and they are not all successful) have failed because some management will not accept change. The production director of a nationalized industry who, in the face of the evidence, refused to believe that any one from the shop-floor could have any useful ideas to put forward, is typical of this determination to resist change. The manager who tells the circle members that it is his job to solve problems not their's, will never succeed in motivating his staff to better productivity, improved quality, etc.

Thirdly, let no one think the application of quality circles is only in engineering or in direct manufacturing. I have had highly successful circles in man-made fibres, design offices, etc. I am hoping to embark shortly on quality circles in local government—a development which I view with eager anticipation. The Japanese have quality circles everywhere—so can we.

In bringing quality circles to birth at Rolls-Royce and many other companies, I am totally committed to the concept. I believe the time is now right for us to grasp this opportunity. Tomorrow is too late.

Yours faithfully,
DERRICK MONK,
Senior Lecturer,
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Banks in the political arena

easoned Whitehall observers would interret the well-orchestrated leaks about a ossible windfall profits tax on the clearing anks, which surfaced again over the weeknd in more concrete form, as little more ian a sign that the Treasury was unusually ivided about whether such a tax should eature in the next Budget.

Certainly there are those in the Treasury who feel that the Chancellor missed the oat by letting the banks off last year. Now hat profits are likely to decline—perhaps nore steeply than anticipated if the Prime Minister's remarks about interest rates are ight—and the banks are performing an nvaluable "industrial lifeboat" role in upporting many hard-pressed parts of nanufacturing industry, this is no time to tart taxing them more heavily.

But the main impetus, led by Financial ecretary, Mr Nigel Lawson, seems to be oming from those who see the banks as an asy and politically attractive target to raise noney and help the Government over its orrowing problems.

While the stockmarket, in marking clearing banks shares down yesterday, and some enior bankers were taking the threat eriously there are very real practical prolems involved in introducing any form of xcess profits tax on the financial sector.

At the moment the main idea seems to be o introduce a levy on the clearers' current ccount balances, although at the 1 per cent evel this would fall far short of raising the 400m now being mooted.

Even if this Government should countennce the sort of retrospective legislation uch a tax would entail, there are difficul ies in defining current accounts in banking erms. The authorities could use the tighter lefinition of non-interest bearing liabilities ut getting to a solution that is both fair and quitable and free of loopholes would be a egislative nightmare. Besides free current accounts are just one element in banking profits.

One alternative could be a flat rate profits tax although given the banks ability to juggle with the "corset"—which is rumoured to have put the Prime Minister's back up—they are likely to be just as nimble footed with profits.

Meanwhile, the banks have had time to rehearse their arguments against a profits tax well enough—inflation adjusted figures are barely enough to prevent erosion of their apital base, the rise in bad debts and so on—and the Governor of the Bank of England has been putting the case against strongly, in the NEDO forum in particular.

Interest rates

Timing the cut

road hints from the Prime Minister over he weekend that interest rates should fall gain before too long put a damper on terling yesterday. But it made it another ood day for the Government Broker. Not nly was he able to feed out remaining upplies both of last week's convertible ilt-edged issue and the present high taxayers' stock (Treasury 3 per cent 1985 A"), but he was also able to sell a modest mount of the 1999 tap stock.

So what happens next? Over the past ortnight or so the market has been olstered by the replenishment of institutional coffers and the strength of the xchange rate. The latter has done a lot to urn market attention away from the probems facing the Government in the March Budget and the doubts that were clearly oremost in many investors' minds in early anuary.

Tactically, there must now be a fairly trong case for the Government to rise this improvement in sentiment and attempt to drive its funding programme forward into the banking months immediately beyond the Budget. That probably means, however, that having played on market expectations of lower interest rates for the past fortnight, it may well have to deliver a bit of carrot sooner rather than later in order to maintain the momentum.

A lot must, of course, depend on how the Government wants to present its Budget. If it wants to use an MLR cut as a palliative on March 10, then there is clearly no room for a pre-Budget reduction in nterest rates. There must, however, be risks involved in announcing an MLR reduction at the time of the Budget. Nothing could make the Government look more out of touch than, say, a 2 per cent reduction in MLR in the Budget speech followed by an immediate thumbs-down from financial markets to the whole Budget package.

In that sense, there is a strong case for cutting MLR some weeks ahead of the Budget—or, if you want to present a really tough line, leaving it until a couple of weeks after the Budget.

● *Half-time figures from Hillards, the Yorkshire supermarkets group, have been boosted by contributions from the five large stores opened in 1979-80 but even without these volume has risen by 8 per cent, despite a flat performance from the small non-foods side. The explanation seems to be that, although gross margins have been increased slightly. Hillards has still maintained its competitive edge and has capitalized on this with sales promotion throughout the period.*

..So with interim profits up from £.34m to £.73m, a full year total of almost double that could be within reach. At 195p, this would give a fully-taxed p/e ratio of about 4.3 and, assuming the one-fifth rise in the interim dividend is repeated at the final, a yield of 3.7 per cent. Outside estimates put Hillards' assets at at least 200p a share, so the present share rating no longer seems to include much for the recurrent takeover rumours which have surrounded the group, and looks fairly based on the trading performance alone... ..

However, looking further ahead, there is the likelihood of a rights issue or some other form of capital-raising exercise to finance the inevitably lumpy expansion programme. Interest charges at the half-year were up from £85,000 to £283,000, reflecting both high interest rates and last year's openings, and although Hillards has only two new stores under way at the moment which can be financed from cash flow, there may well be a need for external finance to fund a higher rate of openings in the future.

J F Nash

Reliant spins off

The fashionable theory that subsidiaries of some major conglomerates could soar like freed birds if only the parent company shackles were removed has made "demerging" a major talking point in both industrial and political circles.

But despite the removal of certain disincentives in the 1980 Finance Bill the subject remains little more than a conversation piece—partly because the personal taxation implications remain unclear.

For those reasons it is perhaps ironic that the first freed bird turns out to be something of an albatross in the shape of Reliant, the Scimitar car group subsidiary of J F Nash Securities.

Nash has worked a minor miracle in turning Reliant into profit during the last two years having acquired the bulk of the business out of the Hodge Group after the takeover by Standard Chartered Bank. But since being virtually forced into taking over the minority in Reliant as a result of SSAP 14 rules on consolidation; Nash has found Reliant an unwieldy possession.

In the current year its projected losses of £700,000 seem likely to dwarf profits from the group's other activities while its heavy financing requirements do not anyway fit easily with the parent group's hotchpotch of packaging and engineering activities.

The way out as Nash sees it is for a de-merger whereby shareholders collect 130 Reliant shares for every 100 Nash they hold. If the move goes through Reliant will be traded on the unlisted securities market.

Shareholders will then be able to retain an interesting stake in a motor group, which although currently in a parlous state—borrowings of almost £2m represent 93 per cent of shareholders funds—could yet turn around assuming careful nursing by its bankers. More importantly they will be able to go on enjoying dividends from Nash, which although itself 109 per cent geared after the de-merger is not entirely on its uppers.

There is however the unfortunate suspicion that Nash is taking advantage of the demerger route to remove a subsidiary, which threatens to pull the whole group down. And that is not really what Whitehall intended when they joined the de-merger debate.

Hugh Stephenson

Why the Chancellor should look again at indexation

Between now and the Budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has to get together a credible version of the Government's economic strategy for the next couple of years. In no particular order some of the more difficult points that will have to be woven into the version that he gives us on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 10 include the following.

First, the real economy (measured either in terms of output or of the unemployment figures) has performed worse than he forecast in either of his first two spring budgets.

Secondly, the public sector borrowing requirement (the steady reduction of which was central to the government's medium-term economic planning) has risen and is rising above any level publicly regarded as acceptable by the Chancellor so far. The target for the current financial year at the time of the last budget was £8,500m. By last November this was up to £11,500m. If Sir Geoffrey Howe in the event gets by with a borrowing figure of less than £14,000m he will be able to count himself lucky.

Thirdly, the experiences of the last year have begun to convince the Government that it is not wise, nor indeed possible, to set targets for monetary policy in terms of a single measure for the amount of money in the system, namely the famous sterling M3, but there is no general agreement about how to set operational goals in terms of two or more targets.

The combination of all these different deviations from the pattern of the development of the economy intended by the Chancellor concentrates in one area. They produce continued reasons for holding up interest rates at a time when it would be nice if interest rates came down.

Lower interest rates would tend to produce a lower exchange rate for the pound, though the exchange rate for most of the last year has been less obviously sensitive to differential interest rates than might normally be expected. They would also ease the burden on industry. And they would lower the cost of selling and servicing new government debt and so slow the process by which cuts in real government spending are offset by higher debt interest payments.

The concentration of minds on how to allow interest rates to achieve a Houdini-like escape from the straitjacket of the Government's basic *economic principles (from which Mrs* Thatcher has said that she has no intention of "cutting and running") explains why the old idea of issuing inflation proofed government-debt not just to senior citizens but to institutions is once again up and running around Whitehall. It is said to be the main contribution that Professor Alan Walters has made to the discussion of policy since arriving as the Prime Minister's economic adviser last month.

It seems reasonably clear that, whatever the theoretical arguments for and against the indexation of government debt, as a matter of practice the overwhelming majority of financial institutions, and virtually every pension fund or life assurance office, would take some of it up, if it was on offer. Provided that it was the principal that was indexed against inflation and not the interest, the prevailing impression is that quite substantial lines of stock could be sold with nominal interest rates of as low as 2 per cent or even 1 per cent. Provided that the Government was right in its professed belief that the rate of inflation was coming down and would stay down, this would be a cheap long-term way of funding the still rising borrowing requirement.

The sirens singing in favour of index-linked gilts are still being resisted as a matter of principle by the Bank of England and most of the Treasury. But there still seems to be open-mindedness on the question of whether the private *sector might not use the same device* in order to get access to longer term funds at lower rates of interest despite the dreadful uncertainty which hangs over all long-term business decisions at the moment.

In theory, there is nothing to stop a company trying to issue index-linked long-term debt if it feels so inclined. But the Bank of England regulates the queue of companies coming to the market for money and in practice at least an encouraging nod or wink would be required.

The folk wisdom of the City recalls that when GKN asked a tentative question about issuing indexed debt in 1974 the nods and the winks were decidedly negative. In the aftermath of the Heath government, indexation had a bad name in 1974.

The indications today are that for several months the Bank has been open-minded on what its attitude would be to such a suggested move by a private sector company. The fear of setting a precedent that might spreed farther in the gilt-edged market is at least partially balanced by interest in the possibility that such an arrangement might enable companies to borrow more long-term money outside the banking system than would otherwise be the case. In that case there would be less upward pressure on that part of the growth in the money supply that represents bank lending to companies.

Various ideas have been floated to get around the problem that indexed borrowing would saddle a company with the liability of paying back an unknown amount at some future date. One of the more interesting is that of an indexed irredeemable preference share, where the capital might be written up in line with inflation. But so far potential takers seem to remain timid.

America's national debt—a growing problem for Mr Reagan

Washington

America's national debt is likely to be well over $1,000,000m (£426,000m) this year. The debt mountain is growing rapidly and public sector borrowing is dangerously in*creasing its share of total* United States credit market dealings.

Private borrowers are being "crowded out" in the money and capital markets and the growing public sector borrowing demand is driving-up interest rates.

Over the years, government agencies have taken advantage of legislation granting them borrowing authority to launch a host of programmes which are poorly monitored by elected officials and which provide interest rate subsidies to an array of special interest groups. Many of the Government's borrowing programmes seem to be out of control.

President Carter was acutely aware of these problems and, just before leaving the White House, he called for the establishment of a "panel of outstanding financial and budget experts" to examine all aspects of public sector borrowing.

President Reagan ought to follow-up on this idea. So confused is the public sector credit picture that it is difficult to determine even the full extent of governmental borrowing in America today.

The budget deficit accounts for a part, but by no means all, of the increase in outstanding public sector debt. Last year the deficit amounted to nearly $60,000m and it is unlikely to be much less this year.

But many federal government agencies—bodies such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Farmers Home Administration — do not even appear in the budget. In theory, the agencies — other examples are the Export-Import Bank and the postal service—pay for themselves. In fact they have in recent years become large net borrowers.

These off-budget agencies borrowed over $20,000m in the markets last year, taking total borrowing by them together with Treasury borrowing to cover the budget deficit, to $80,600m.

The accumulated totals of budget deficits and off-budget agency borrowing produced a gross federal debt total of $914,300m by the end of 1980.

About 20 per cent of the debt is held in assorted government accounts. But the amount that really has an effect on credit markets and budget interest payments is the remainder—the debt held by the public. This totalled $715,100m or 27.9 per cent of gross national product, at the end of 1980. Over the last quarter of a century the volume has increased by 219 per cent.

The scale of the debt has become an increasing problem in recent years because of the dramatic rise in interest rate levels. In the 1950s and 1960s the average cost to the Treasury of three-month bills was just two per cent and four per cent respectively. In the 1970s the average rate on these bills was 6.3 per cent. In 1980 the average rate was 11.5 per cent. This year it is certain to be even higher.

Interest paid on the federal debt held by the public last year was $60,400m. This was four times as much as in 1970 and seven times more than in 1960. Records were smashed last year as the interest payments exceeded 2.35 per cent of the gross national product and more than 10 per cent of all budget outlays. Estimates suggest these figures will rise in the next couple of years.

The Reagan Administration is determined to balance the budget, but the task is desperately difficult given that in the next fiscal year more than $80,000m of outlays will be interest payments on outstanding debt and cannot be touched at all.

But the budget funding and the borrowing by off-budget agencies are only part of the picture. Many government sponsored corporations, ranging from the Student Loan Marketing Association to the Federal National Mortgage Association, obtain funds at beneficial rates because of the ultimate guarantees of the government.

Then there are the many federal government loan guarantee programmes, which again provide recipients with funds at better rates than they could obtain if they just sought cash in the markets on their own account. In some cases—such as Chrysler—it is doubtful if the recipients of these funds could obtain cash at all, without government guarantees.

Funds raised under federal government guarantee and by government sponsored corporations, totalled more than $40,000m last year, bringing the overall total of federal governmental borrowing to $124,000m which is double the 1975 total and compares with only $33,000m in 1971. This $124,000m figure has to be seen alongside the sum of $348,000m which represents all cash provided to borrowers of all types by United States credit markets last year.

To the $124,400m figure should be added the volume of tax-exempt bonds issued by assorted governmental organizations, overwhelmingly municipal governments, which exceeded $55,000m last year. Never before has the public sector taken anything like as much of total United States credit market funds available as it did in 1930. This year the public sector might swallow even more cash.

Projections show total outstanding debt, under all types of federal government auspices, including guarantees, will ex. $1,400,000m by the end of next year.

The debt figures illustrate the enormous task before the Reagan Administration as it seeks to curb the growth of public sector borrowing. It must succeed if there is to be better budget management, better prospects for money stock control and more funds available for private sector needs.

Government credit activities have not been a major part of budget discussions in the Congress in recent years. The Reagan Administration has said it is determined to deal with the issue. It still has to spell out exactly how it will do so.

Frank Vogl

Seeing out the recession with the real McCoy

Ronald Faux

Tartan, that hallmark of Scottishness and stamp of sensible fashion, is wearing the recession well. "What recession?" demands one manufacturer in mock bewilderment. "We are doing very nicely thank you". His mill turns out 9,000 feet of high quality tartan cloth a week every inch of which has a customer.

Oddly enough, one of the most productive centres for tartan in Britain is a Victorian mill at Saddleworth, Yorkshire. Mr William Barff, managing director of the Saddleworth Woollen Company says that it has been producing tartan since before the war and now supplies most firms in Scotland.

"A large amount of the tartan sold in Princes Street, Edinburgh, comes from here."

Business had slowed down lately but the trade in tartan is not feeling the pinch anything like as badly as the company's exports in menswear to North America.

The Saddleworth looms pro*duce a formidable 66,000 ft of* tartan a week, which earns the company around £3m a year. Half the output is "fashion" tartan: its pattern owes allegiance to no particular clan and often bears Scottish-sounding names which the Lord Lyon King of Arms would find difficult to track down.

The rest of Saddleworth's output is authentic tartan. "It is a fact that in recession fashion designers tend towards classic styles and classic cloth and this always helps tartan. It is keeping us going at the moment", says Mr Barff.

Other manufacturers note the popularity of non-authentic tartan. The real McCoy might be all very well in Scotland, says one, but seven yards of cloth in a kilt plus a swathe in a cape on top is fairly heavy on the physique and the pocket. Women in particular look for something a little lighter.

The Scottish Tartans Society based on the Museum of Scottish Tartans at Comrie, Perthshire, is guardian to more than 1,300 recorded tartans ranging from the easily recognized Royal Stewart and Black Watch to the "weavers nightmare" which is how the clan Ogilvie tartan is regarded. This intricate cloth contains more than 90 stripes in each 27 inch repeat.

Dr Micheil MacDonald is curator of the museum and secretary of the Monitoring Committee for Scottish Tartans which is headed by the Lord Lyon. Dr MacDonald has been abroad promoting the Year of the Scot armed with such memorabilia as the Royal Stewart kilt and matching drawers, which were once sported by Queen Victoria's loyal retainer—the enigmatic John Brown.

Mrs MacDonald, the deputy curator, says the Paris fashion houses have helped the present popularity of tartan and at the opposite end of the market punks are starting to wear it. New designs are appearing all the time and there is a great interest in the subject.

The museum has a piece of tartan taken by one American astronaut to the moon and the crash helmet worn by Lady Arran, aged 62, in which last August, she became the first woman to travel at more than 100 miles an hour on water. Her record of 102.45 mph was set in August on Lake Windermere and streaming from her helmet were two lengths of Colquhoun tartan from the clan of which her father was chief.

"When the Colquhouns do anything dangerous they always fly the tartan" Mrs MacDonald explains.

The tartan produced at the Inverness mill of James Pringle is an *invaluable* cushion against the severe recession in other parts of the textile industry. Mr Euan Pringle, managing director, says the main markets are headed by Japan, which takes a large proportion of the 3,000 *yards the factory produces each* year.

"Competition is very keen and I have been hammered on one or two contracts by foreign firms, particularly those seeking foreign exchange, selling £1 a metre less than we can. We buy from Yorkshire for our skirt making division and reckon that the material we produce here is the Rolls-Royce of the market. That goes into high quality kilt making. Unfortunately there are not many mills left in Scotland able to concentrate on tartan in bulk."

The company has 180 different patterns and like most mills that have stayed in business, uses high-speed automated plant. Ensuring that the pattern warp and design card are correct remains, however, very much a human skill.

Lochcarron Weavers in Galashiels has also had an excellent year for tartan *sales helped by* a buoyant fashion market. "It has probably peaked out a little now on the Continent but when one market declines we usually find that another takes off and America is looking very *promising," says Mr* Alistair Buchan, the sales director.

Export markets have sheltered the mill from the recession, increasing by 35 per cent last year against 6 per cent in the Scottish and 14 per cent in English markets.

"In actual fact it is getting harder to find really high quality tartan and worsted products generally because of the huge spread of the mill shop buying in numbers rather than quality. The quality manufacturer cannot compete in this huge market", says Mr Buchan.

The National Association of Scottish Woollen Manufacturers confirms that companies serving the top end of the market and the spinners of cashmere are doing well.

"It is those in the middle of the road that are finding it difficult", says a spokesman. The tourist trade has not done well, the home market similarly and the strength of the pound has *clearly knocked exports.* Even so some of our members at the top end of the market are hardly aware there is a recession. I do not think it will improve for the volume business until the recession ends."



Photograph by Peter Trievner

High fashion at the Scotch House, Knightsbridge. Not all tartans are as authentic as this Erskine.

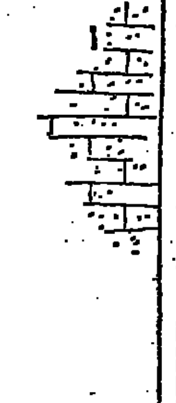
Business Diary: In whom we trust ● Snap judgment

One problem for Republicans entering office in Washington is what to do with their money? Take Ronald Reagan for example. The wealthy one-time star of westerns cannot hold stocks and shares and sit in the White House for more than five minutes without someone screaming "conflict of interest".

The President has placed his cash in a blind trust that is being managed by Raymond Armstrong, President of Starwood Corporation, a New York investment company. The trust is "blind" because the President will have no idea what Starwood does with his cash, except to receive a report now and again on the valuation of the portfolio. Reagan's trust now consists of $740,000 of certificates of deposit soon to mature which Starwood will invest as it pleases. Into the trust will go cash from Reagan's property.

The President hopes to get $1.9m from the sale of his home in Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles—after all he lives rent-free in the White House. He also intends to sell his 688-acre California ranch, for which he paid $526,000 in 1954.

For some Republicans, the money problems are greater still. Rumour has it that John Shad, a top executive at the E. F. Hutton brokerage house, has been offered the important post of chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The trouble is that the SEC job just pays $55,000 and Shad makes over $450,000. Worse still, to avoid the conflict of interest screams, Shad might have to sell his Hutton stock on moving to Washington and face a possible capital gains tax bill of some $2.5m.



"It was very sudden. He emigrated two days after it was announced that Lord George-Brown was joining the new centre party."

● Trapping is big business in Canada. Last year between 40,000 and 50,000 trappers — Indians, Eskimoes and whites—harvested around $100m (£35m) worth of fur-bearing animals. There are trappers in the Arctic —not many, but some—who make $100,000 a year on white fox alone.

Not a bad living. Many of the animals, however, die cruel deaths in leg-hold traps. These animals are too big to be killed by the closing action of existing traps. But a leg can be caught in a clamp and the *animal* thus held until the trapper comes back to clear his lines.

The trouble is, this may take two or three days, or in some cases even a week. Bigger animals, for instance a coyote, fox, or a timber wolf, spend agonizing hours trying to get away. Sometimes it succeeds—by twisting and gnawing at a numb or frozen limb until it separates. Then it hobbles off either to starve or be killed by something fleeter of foot.

Seven years ago a committee of all the governmental wild life agencies in Canada was established to study "the state of the arts" in trapping, and recommend the least cruel traps.

It is to submit its findings to a federal-provincial conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, in June. David Neave, its chairman, says his committee should be able to come up with ideas to suit each kind of trapper, and emphasizes that trappers themselves are not opposed to new traps.

● A demolition permit has just been issued for the Eiffel Tower. The men with the sledge-hammers and crow-bars are due to start work next month and the job is expected to take four years.

Alarmed readers can relax. The tower itself is not to be demolished, only the shops and stalls which clutter up the first floor of the "flagpole of France".

Tests have shown that the jumble of structures and the heavy wooden flooring are heavier than Gustave Eiffel allowed for in his design. At the age of 90 the tower is still sound but the heavy weight round its middle could prove harmful in time so the demolition men have been called in.

When all the work has been finished the shops on the tower will have a new look said to be more in keeping with the style of Paris.

The face-lift for the tower follows a bitter battle just over a year ago when the City of Paris took control of the tower.

The city then gave a new two-year lease to a company headed by Bernard Rocher, a deputy mayor of Paris, on condition that he carried out the improvements. He promptly had a strike on his hands from the waiters in the famous restaurant on the first floor when they feared they would be made redundant while the renovation work went ahead.

When all the work is over, however, new express lifts should end the dreadful queueing which can ruin a visit there in the summertime and there should be more work than ever for the waiters.

● Television addicts beware, the face of that ubiquitous media man David Frost returns to our screens well before he takes up his role introducing breakfast television in 1983.

British Caledonian announced yesterday that Frost has been appointed the airline's "consultant for consumer affairs" and stars in a series of television commercials for the airline which start today.

"It is an airline that has always impressed me as a David taking on the Goliaths", the *man said, concluding* the agreement at Gatwick, according to a BCal statement.

The agreement lasts for up to two years, concluding before the start of breakfast television.

This is just as well for Frost since his extra-mural activities would be in direct conflict with commercial television advertising guidelines if he were appearing as a current affairs presenter. These prevent anyone who appears on screen in an editorial role advertising a product.

Just received here, the Lord only knows how, a letter from the office in Buenos Aires of Nobel laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel, addressed thus:

P.O. BOX n 7
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Gran Bretaña

But then the Nobel was for peace, not accuracy.

Ross Davies

Stock markets

Good demand for gilts but bank shares weak

Mrs Thatcher's optimistic remarks over the weekend about the possibility of lower interest rates in the forthcoming Budget prompted a flurry of activity in the market yesterday.

Jobbers in Government securities reported strong demand for stock by investors banking on a cut in MLR before the Budget. The Government Broker was soon able to announce the exhaustion of the two new short "taps"—Exchequer, 12 per cent convertible, 1985, which closed £1-16 up at £40 11-16, and the Treasury, 3 per cent 1985, unchanged at £73¾. In addition, he activated the long "tap", Treasury 12½ per cent, 1999, "B" at £20¼, but demand by then began to falter and it closed £¼ off on the day at £20.

Elsewhere, in longs gains of around £¼ were the order of the day after earlier rises of £¼ to £½. At the shorter end, prices ended unchanged on lack of follow-through, having been as high as £¼ at one point.

Equities, too, joined in the rally, helped by the fall in sterling and in spite of two further gloomy reports on the economy.

One weak spot, however, was in banks where prices were marked sharply lower first thing on the possibility of a windfall tax in the Budget.

Falls stretched to around 15p on average at one point as dealers talked of "panic selling", but conditions eventually improved and all the big four clearing banks closed above the worst. Lloyds was the most badly affected, dropping 17p to 328p, with a fall of 11p in Barclays at 395p, while National Westminster on 370p and Midland on 318p shed 10p a piece.

The shakeout in the engineering sector after the recent financial troubles at Duport has still to run its course. A line of over 500,000 Delta Metal were doing the rounds yesterday at 45p, around 1½p higher than the closing price of 43½p unchanged.

Business after hours was showing signs of boiling over with one or two investors taking their profits amid fears of industrial action by Yorkshire miners over pit closures and the setback on initial dealings on Wall Street. But the *FT* index showed only a minimal adjustment, closing 3.5 up at 469.8, having been 4.1 higher at midday.

Leading industrials spent a quiet session, with prices trading in narrow limits. ICI reporting in a couple of weeks, closed 2p lower at 290p, with similar falls in Dunlop at 61p and Fisons at 126p. Glaxo ended the day 2p stronger at 266p, after 268p, with Hawker Siddeley 2p better at 254p and Unilever 3p to the good at 453p.

Engineering shares continued to show further stability after a recent weakness over Duport's financial situation and GKN rose 5p to 142p on hopes of a helpful outcome to the plans for Phoenix One with British Steel.

Davy Corporation, awaiting developments in its legal action taken against Enserch, hardened 4p to 152p, while Haden, up 6p at 96p, and Simon Engineering, up 4p at 286p, both benefited from weekend comment. But in toys, the decision by Airfix to go into liquidation sent a shudder through Lesney, down 3p at 16p, while Berwick Timpo added 56p on favourable comment.

Foods saw Robertson Foods dip 7p to 149p as a "sell" recommendation after the rejection of the bid from Avana took effect. Hillards closed firm at 195p after its interim profits expansion. In stores, speculative attention again lifted Austin Reed 5p to 95p and Bambers Stores 5p to 61p.

Building shares, always quick to benefit from reports of a cut in MLR, quickly responded. Among the leaders, Blue Circle climbed 4p to 352p, Tarmac 4p to 270p and Anglo American Asphalt 9p to 39p. The profits contraction left Vibroplant unchanged at 200p, with Barratt Developments racing ahead 7p to 167p on the back of cheaper money prospects also.

Shares of Norvic Securities were suspended at 10p, pending an announcement.

Demand for electricals was maintained, but profit-taking after hours on the back of weakness among United States defence stocks saw most close below their best. Racal ended the day 1p better at 323, while GEC closed all square at 616p. But falls were seen in Plessey, 2p lower at 284p, and Thorn EMI, 3p easier at 291p.

On the bid front, UDT closed unchanged at 58p, awaiting the possibility of a higher offer from Lloyds & Scottish with House of Fraser closing firm at 144p, still 6p below the 150p offer from Lonrho, 5p higher at 102p and awaiting figures on Thursday.

The seamen's dispute continues to drag on and is beginning to have an adverse effect on shipping shares. Judging by the recent weakness of shares of P & O Dfd. Yesterday a line of 200,000 went through the market at 117p as the share price dipped 1p to 116p.

Equity turnover on January 30 was £103.912m. (13,161 bargains.) Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Nat West, Cons Gold, Distillers, BPC, BHP, GKN, GUS, ICL, Lonrho, Muirhead, Plessey, Racal, Bass and Berec.

Traded options: Dealers reported few inquiries with only 762 contracts, Lonrho again attracted the most with 241.

Traditional options: Dealers recorded increased activity as new dates were introduced. Calls were made in ZCI at 4½p, Turner and Newall at 7½p, Provident Finance at 14p and BSG at 2p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
H. J. Baldwin (I)	1.26(1.25)	0.15(0.17)	2.03(2.35)	—(—)	—	—(1.0)
Everards Brew (F)	13.3(11.9)	1.33(1.36)	38.3(34.7)	4.1(—)	—	6.4(5.7)
Hillards (I)	80.8(56.5)	1.73(1.34)	12.6(10.9)	1.5(1.25)	1/4	—(4.25)
Regional Props (I)	—(—)	0.92(0.69)	—(—)	0.7(0.6)	3/4	—(1.90)
Vibroplant (I)	7.09(6.76)	1.36(2.07)	10.8(16.5)	5.2(5.2)	19/2	—(4.52)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net.

Norvic to call in receiver if loan request fails

By Rosemary Unsworth

Receivers will be appointed at the end of the week unless Norvic Securities, the Norwich shoe manufacturer, can raise £750,000.

The group, whose shares were suspended yesterday at 10p, heir par value, said its bankers, Barclays Bank, had refused to make any further advances against existing borrowing facilities of £2.9m, because of worries about the future of the shoe industry.

Mr Charles Metcalfe, chairman, said that pretax losses this year would be £2.25c. At the interim stage when the group reported losses of £900,000 he warned that the second half would show a similar result.

Yesterday he pointed out that the major reorganization and closure of two factories, including redundancy payments of £1.5m to 900 former employees had added to the losses. "Our reorganization measures have taken over £3m per annum out of our operating expenses and have very substantially reduced our break-even point."

"The extra finance was needed to make stock for pre-Easter sales and the cash flow projection showed that this could have been repaid within the current year. "Our staff and operatives, aware of our difficulties, have quite voluntarily offered a pay freeze until March 1982, so in effect we are looking for a temporary cash injection for 4,100 employees of just under £700 per job". Barclays' refusal to advance the money meant that the reorganization efforts could not be tested or proved, Mr Metcalfe added.

"I should add that our interest payments, which have totalled well over £1m in the last three years, have been paid in full". Mr Metcalfe said last night that he did not know where the extra finance could be raised, or whether the banks would have a change of heart.

Last September Mr Metcalfe told shareholders that a revaluation of properties due to be incorporated in the next balance sheet would show a surplus of £750,000 over book value.

Regional Properties up midway

By Peter Wainwright

Regional Properties, now backed by Friends' Provident Life Office, is fast spending its holding of Government stocks on buying new properties and developing existing ones. So shareholders are warned in the statement for the six months to last September of a fall in earnings in the second six months, reflecting the loss of investment income.

But the first half year was good. Net rental income rose from £1.14m to £1.3m. After deducting interest of £380,000 against £450,000 pretax profits climbed from £694,000 to £924,000. The big figure, and the one paid most attention in the stock market, under expenditure on existing developments and new properties of £9m.

Best known for Wellington House in the Strand, Regional is completing 47,000 sq ft of offices and 72,000 sq ft of industrial space at Vauxhall Cross in London. The group also has a site in Ealing for offices totalling 162,000 sq ft.

Asset value a share is probably 200p a share against an unchanged share price of 143p. The interim dividend rises from 0.93p gross to 1.07p but the prospective yield is only 2 per cent. A full bid from Friends Provident cannot be ruled out.

Westinghouse settles dispute with Gulf

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

In another move towards unravelling the litigation around its uranium supply contracts, Westinghouse Electric, the American power engineering company, has reached an out-of-court settlement with Gulf Oil and Gulf Minerals Canada.

Under the agreement, which has three parts, Gulf will pay Westinghouse $25m within 30 days of settlement. The second condition is that Gulf will deliver about 13 million pounds of uranium to utilities involved in Westinghouse's litigation in Richmond, Virginia. Westinghouse may be allowed to buy 6 million of those 13 million pounds at less than the market price.

The third provision is that Gulf will pay Westinghouse 10 per cent of the first $500m in sales to these utilities and 5 per cent of the next $500m.

Westinghouse recently reached out-of-court agreements with Homestake Mining and Getty Oil. The latest settlements confirm a trend towards out-of-court agreements over a series of disputes which has been running since the early 1970s and involves thousands of millions of dollars. Westinghouse's action against Rio Tinto Zinc of America has been dropped, but action continues against the United Kingdom parent company.

There are still 23 defendants to the cartel case Westinghouse is bringing in Chicago. Westinghouse alleges that a cartel agreement between these uranium suppliers, mainly mining companies in the United States, Australia, Canada and South Africa, prevented it from supplying 65 million pounds of uranium to the utilities.

Vibroplant profits tumble

By Peter Wainwright

The construction slump has at last caught up with Vibroplant Holdings, the plant hire group. In the half year to September 30, sales rose from £6.7m to £7.1m but a hitherto unbroken record of bigger profits came to an end with an interim pretax plunge from £2.1m to £1.4m.

Profits were caught between surplus industry capacity, recession and price competition on the one hand, and rising costs and heavier depreciation and interest charges on the other. Not surprisingly, the slump will leave its mark on the figures for the second six months.

The group has, however, had a strong cash flow and a conservative dividend policy. The interim dividend has been maintained at 5.25p net or 7.5p gross. Earnings a share were 10.89p against 16.53p.

Inco net profits soar to $219m

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

Despite a depressed world market for nickel, Inco, the Canadian company which is the largest producer of the metal, raised net earnings last year to US $219m (£92.4m) from $142m in 1979. Earnings a share were $2.56 compared with $1.58.

Fourth quarter net earnings were $36.9m, against $69.2m in the same period last year. The sharp fall reflects a deterioration in the market which forced Inco in November to offer a temporary discount of 6 per cent on its prices.

Danks hopes to break even

By Our Financial Staff

Danks Gowerton, the West Midlands engineering group, expects a return to profitability in the second half of the current year but warns that it may not achieve a break-even position for the full year. Mr Arthur Roe, chairman, said in the annual report that the effect of group rationalizations will not be felt until the third quarter, but there has been an improvement in orders in the past three months and the level is considered satisfactory.

Turnover was £29m, against £23m, in the 15 months to June 30, 1980, with net losses of £1.35m, compared with £1m profit. The final dividend was passed, making a 1p total against the previous year's 3.08p.

The loss was entirely attributable to the engineering division. The steel division made net profit of £43,000 in spite of the steel strike.

Mr Roe added that high interest rates and the value of sterling are not encouraging the quest for overseas orders, and there is no sign of an uplift in home demand.

The group's new auditors, Clement Keys, have qualified the accounts as they were not appointed until after June 30 and therefore were unable to observe stocktaking procedures carried out in relation to that date. "However we have examined reports by the directors, which are supported by independent parties, and have accepted that these procedures were properly undertaken in accordance with established practices."

Touche Ross, the former auditors, resigned in November, 1980.

Briefly

Dares Estates: Cloverhill Securities are interested in 2.175m ordinary shares.

Barclays International has opened a new office in Miami, under an agency licence. New office will concentrate on providing corporate and correspondent banking services, particularly the finance of international trade between Miami and Central and South America.

Kean & Scott: Newman Investments have an interest in 231,500 ordinary shares (6.12 per cent) of Kean & Scott.

Home Farm Products: In his interim statement, the chairman reports that while there is still a constant demand for the company's products, profit margins are shrinking because of even fiercer competition.

Hanson-McDonough: The McDonough group is now a wholly-owned Hanson Trust subsidiary following approval of the £74m deal by McDonough shareholders. The purchase price is made up of £10.2m payable by Hanson and £63.6m by United States bank borrowings secured on McDonough's assets without recourse to Hanson. McDonough is a major United States company with interests in building materials.

Everards Brewery: Turnover for year to September 27 £13.27m (£11.96m). Pretax profit £1.53m (£1.36m). Eps 38.33p (34.75p). Dividend 6.4p (5.7p).

Meritor Investments (venture capital is owned by Midland Bank and Rolls Royce Pension Trust) has taken a 25 per cent stake in recently-formed microprocessing development company Nicolas. This, together with further funds from Meritor, makes a total investment, by them, of £290,000.

Scot Bowyers, part of Unigate Group, has acquired Turners' Turkeys of Spalding, Lincolnshire which produces a range of products including oven-ready turkeys, turkey portions, and other processed turkey products.

Charterhall America: Charterhall Limited, the U.K. based oil and minerals group, announces today that its subsidiary, Charterhall America, Inc., has entered into a joint venture agreement with Century Oil & Gas, a Colorado-based oil company, to acquire and explore oil and gas leases in the Williston Basin of Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota in the United States. Charterhall America, Inc. will contribute a minimum of US$3.12m for land acquisition over a maximum period of three years for a 50 per cent interest in the venture.

Technology Investment Trust: Gross revenue for half-year to Nov. 30, 1980, fell from £813,000 to £746,000.

McLeod Russel's asset strength

The fact that McLeod Russel has shown good growth in terms of assets has helped to make it resilient in the face of economic difficulties.

In its latest interim report, the board tells shareholders that, while the significant reduction in Indian profits and the downturn in United Kingdom trading operations will affect group results, McLeod's overall financial position remains strong. It continues to consolidate its assets and resources outside India. At the same time, its commitment to asset, as opposed to earnings, situations has aided it in fighting off the worst effects of the international recession.

In the five years to March 31, 1980, total net assets grew from £4.64m to £20.4m.

Wiggins Teape in £19m property sale

Wiggins Teape has sold Gateway House, its award-winning modern office building in Basingstoke, to a pension fund client of Barclays Bank Trust for £19m and has taken a lease on the building for 25 years.

The sale is the second noteworthy property move by Wiggins Teape, which in the last nine years has raised £47m from the sale of office properties.

Mr John Buchanan, company secretary of Wiggins, said that the proceeds of the present sale would be used to help finance continued investment in the company's papermaking business in Britain.

Export cheer for Cronite Group

In the year to September 30, 1980, the Cronite metals group made a loss for the first time ever. But the annual report does contain a few optimistic signs for the future. Mr K. F. Ward, the chairman, says that it is evident there will be no short-term improvement in conditions. At best, Cronite can look to an upturn in the latter half of 1981, but as Cronite's year ends in September, the group is unlikely to realize significant benefits.

However, Cronite's export orders are at "an historic high". Cronite's bankers have provided increased facilities for the current year which are substantially in excess of current or projected requirements.

Avon chief expects first-half loss

Lord Farnham, chairman of Avon Rubber told me the annual meeting that the contraction of business from many of the traditional customers has caused short-time working in our factories and this continues. He expects a "significant" first-half loss.

"It is now evident that the consequences of the recession on many industries and customers in the home market may be permanent", he said. The most determined actions to bring a significant reduction in costs are needed so a major reorganization of the group structure is therefore taking place.

"We are making determined efforts to maintain and secure additional profitable business from export markets. For example we shall shortly be supplying components to almost every major car company in Europe but inevitably margins are being depressed by the continuing strength of sterling."

Business appointments

New director appointed to board of Mobil Oil

Mr Peter J. Hoskins has been appointed a director of Mobil Oil.

Mr A. E. Simpson has been appointed chief executive of the GKN Fastener Products Division.

Mr Christopher G. Ross has been elected as director and appointed as divisional chief executive of the valve division of Lake and Elliot.

Mr Tom Sooke has been appointed to the board of M.J.H. Nightingale.

Mr Derek Hughes and Mr David Potter have joined the board of Samuel Montagu as managing directors.

Mr W. A. Craddock, managing director of Harrods, has been appointed to the board of House of Fraser.

Mr Jim Whitehead has been appointed a director of Fosceo Minsep and, from March 3, managing director of Fosceo Minsep's Unicorn Sector group of companies.

Mr Ian Fox becomes a director of Minet International. Mr Vinod Desai is appointed financial director and company secretary.

Mr R. J. Preston, group financial controller, has been appointed a director of Henry Boot and Sons.

Mr Per Ahlqvist, Mr Richard Andrew, Mr Nici Daubeny and Mr Oliver Steele have been appointed deputy managing directors of Scandinavian Bank.

Dr D. Swallow, managing director of Tunnel Speciality Chemicals, has been appointed a director of the parent company, Tunnel Holdings.

Mr John R. Sclater has been appointed chairman of the Association of Consortium Banks. Mr Gerard Legrain has been appointed deputy chairman. Mr Sclater is managing director of Nordic Bank and Mr Legrain managing director of International Mexican Bank.

Mr Timothy J. Benn, deputy chairman, has been appointed chairman of Benn Brothers. Mr James Benn has been appointed deputy chairman.

Mr Len Williams, pensions controller of the Sterling-Winthrop group, has been appointed a director of Sterling Group Pension Trustees.

Mr Alexander Eaglestone has been appointed secretary of the Magdalen College Development Trust.

Mr Michael Peacock, managing director of Video Arts Television, has been elected chairman of the newly-formed Independent Programme Producers' Association. Mr Mark Shelmerdine, managing director of London Film Productions, has been elected treasurer of the association.

Mr Jack Monger has been appointed a director of CTMS (Europe).

Mr Neil Cooper becomes general manager of Guy Butler (Hongkong).

Mr Colin Gill has been appointed director and general manager of Fairey Nuclear.

Mr Jan Ericson has been appointed international marine coordinator for the Burmah-Castrol Company, based in Swindon. He succeeds Mr Gordon Deegan who has been appointed director and general manager of Castrol Hong-Kong.

Mr T. Lees has been made regional general manager of the new London region of Co-operative Retail Services.

Mr F. A. Gosling has replaced Mr P. J. M. Patten as chairman of the National Television Rental Association.

Tan Sri Datuk Thomas Jayasuriya, a Sabah lawyer; Tunku Naquiyuddin ibni Tuanku Ja'far, chairman of Antah Holdings; and Encik Mohd Yussof Zainal, former Malaysian Ambassador to the Philippines have joined the board of Consolidated Plantations Berhad, the main Sime Darby plantations company. Mr L. R. Patterson has resigned from the board.

S African group to drop listing

Pretoria Portland Cement, the South African building materials company, has decided to end its listing on the London Stock Exchange from March 2. The company says that less than 2 per cent of its shares are held in Britain and that trading has been very small in recent years.

All the shares will be listed in Johannesburg, but it will be possible to trade in them in London under rule 163 (1) (e) of the Stock Exchange. Last year Pretoria Portland made pre-tax profits of R52.9m (about £26m) and paid dividends of 47 cents.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	64	+1	6.7	10.5	5.8
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	41	—	1.4	3.4	16.9
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	+1	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	112	—	6.4	5.7	3.5
110	55	Frederick Parker	55	—	11.0	20.0	2.5
110	74	George Blair	76	−1	3.1	4.1	—
110	59	Jackson Group	107	—	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	120	—	7.9	6.6	9.8
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	216	Torday Limited	216	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	12½	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	76	—	15.0	19.7	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	36	—	3.0	8.3	5.5
102	81	Walter Alexander	101	—	5.7	5.6	5.6
260	181	W. S. Yeates	260	+2	12.1	4.7	4.2

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

...PER was steadier.—Afternoon.—...wire bars, £... per metric ... three months, £803-03.50. Sales, ... Cash cathodes, £758-... three months, £787-89. Sales, 400 tons all ... Morning.—Cash wire bars, ...-74; three months, £796.50-97. Settlement, £774. Sales, 11,550 tons. ... cathodes, £761-62; three months, ...-83. Settlement, £762. Sales, 100 ...

... standard was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,840-50 ... tonne; three months, £5,770-80. ... 764 tonnes (mainly carries). ... grade, cash £5,840-50; three months, £5,770-80. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £5,825-35; three months, £5,750-70. Settlement, £5,835. Sales, 275 tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash £5,825-35; three months, £5,750-70. Settlement, £5,835. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore ex-works, $M1,30.4?. a picul.

...D was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £...50-79 per tonne; three months, £...93-88. Sales, 4,250 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £276.50-77; three months, £287-87.50. Settlement, £277. Sales, 4,200 tonnes (about half carries).

... was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £...-14 per tonne; three months, £...-25. Sales, 10,525 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £508.50-09; three months, £...20.50. Settlement, £509.50. Sales, ... tonnes (mainly carries).

...TINUM was at £193.00 ($456.00) ... ounce.

...ER was steadier.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 546.10p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1285.50); three months, 564.10p (1330.40); six months, 583.40p (...); one-year, 614.20p (...10c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 538-540p; three months, 571-71.50p. Sales, 50 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 541-45p; three months, 568-...; Settlement, 545p. Sales, 67 lots (mainly carries).

...MINIUM was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £601-03 per tonne; three months, £622.50-23. Sales, 3,575 ... Morning.—Cash, £...; three months, £613.50-14. Settlement, ... Sales, 1,100 tonnes.

...KEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,725-30 per tonne; three months, £2,710-15. Sales, 176 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,770-40; three months, £2,765-67. Settlement, £2,740. ... 174 tonnes (mainly carries).

...BER was quieter and slightly dearer (pence per kilo).—March, ...20; April, 60.20-59.50; April-..., 60.50-60.60; July-Sept, 63.90-...; Oct-Dec, 66.80-66.90; Jan-..., 69.80-...; April-June, 72.80-...; July-Sept, 75.60-76.00; Oct-..., 78.00-79.00. Sales, 114 lots at ... tonnes, nil at five tonnes.

...BER PHYSICALS were reserved ...

Feb, £103.15; March, £104.20; April, £105.70; May, £105.80 trans-shipment east coast. EEC was unquoted; English feed fob Feb, £104 east coast.

MAIZE: US/French and French unquoted. S African yellow Feb-March, £86.50.

BARLEY: English feed fob April-June, £101.75 east coast. (All per tonne cif UK unless stated).

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady: March, £97.45; May, £101.20; Sept, £94.40; Nov, £98.25; Jan, £101.85. Sales: 51 lots. WHEAT was steady: March, £107.45; May, £111.65; July, £115.65; Sept, £100.00; Nov, £103.75; Jan, £107.60. Sales, 81 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	—	£103.80	—
E Midlands	£108.00	£105.10	£97.00
N East	—	£106.50	£97.00
Scotland	—	—	£93.00

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Feb 2. GB cattle, 84.06p per kg lw (−0.37). UK sheep, 141.00p per kg est dcw (+1.28). GB pigs, 66.58p per kg lw (+0.32). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 7.0 per cent, average price 84.19p (−0.57). Sheep numbers down 3.9 per cent, average price 142.06p (+1.87). Pig numbers down 9.6 per cent, average price 66.57p (+0.35). Scotland: Cattle numbers down 14.9 per cent, average price 83.42p (+0.46). Sheep numbers down 9.5 per cent, average price 135.80p (+0.29). Pig numbers down 6.3 per cent, average price 67.30p (−0.25).

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £45.90; April, £54.50; Nov, £52.90. Sales, 60. (All of 40 tonnes each.)

TEA: Assam teas opened steady and closed around 5p to 7p per kilo dearer, *according to the London Tea Brokers' Association.*

Sylhets sold readily, gaining several pence towards the close. A few best Kenyas were sometimes lower but East Africans generally were firm to dearer. Central Africans were well supported, closing up to 5p dearer, and Ceylons continued to meet good demand at fully firm to dearer rates.

Best liquoring teas and medium Nepal were a strong feature, and there was good demand for South Indian teas at fully firm rates.

Brazil raises tax on coffee exports

Brazil has raised its export tax on shipments of green and instant coffee, the government coffee agency, IBC, announced in Rio de Janeiro yesterday.

The export tax on green coffee rose $4 to $144 (£61) per 132-pound bag. The tax on instant coffee went up eight cents to $3.03 a pound for the spray-dried type, and nine cents a pound to $3.12 for the freeze-dried variety.

There was no change in the government-set minimum export price for instant or green coffee.

IBC gave no explanation for the export tax increase, but the agency usually raises the export tax when the government devalues the cruzeiro.

LME metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes except silver, which is in troy ounces): Copper rose 500 to 123,500; tin fell 25 to 6,815; lead rose 1,000 to 70,625; zinc rose 975 to 92,475; aluminium fell 1,950 to 55,100; nickel fell 150 to 4,050; and silver fell 180,000 to 26,220,000.

Discount market

The Bank of England gave help on a large scale yesterday to relieve a shortage of funds.

This assistance was channelled by direct purchase of bills from the houses: a small number of Treasury Bills, small quantity of *local authority bills*, and a moderate amount of eligible bank bills.

Apart from the closing minutes of the day, money got tighter rather than easier as the session proceeded.

Foreign exchange report

After opening briefly at 2.3830 yesterday, the pound ran into selling pressure and weakened progressively thereafter upset by Mrs Thatcher's weekend hint of an MLR cut soon.

It ended just above the worst at 2.3490 against the dollar compared with Friday's 2.3670, after modest steadying operations by the Bank of England.

Trade-weighted sterling, calculated against a new basket of currencies for the first time, which includes a 25 per cent dollar weighting (previously 33 per cent), fell to 104.0 from the equivalent of 105.2.

Trade was quite brisk at times, dealers reported. Besides the dollar, losses in terms of leading currencies included the mark 4.9800 (5,0450), Swiss franc 4.5130 (4.5700), French franc 11.49 (11.61), and yen, 477.00 (489.50).

The dollar fell sharply over a broad front at first, reflecting profit-taking sparked off by the lower United States interest trend, and comment by a Reagan spokesman of a "worst-ever economic mess" to clear up.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 2	Market rates (close) February 2	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.3450-3825	$2.3485-3495	.53-.63c disc	2.10-2.20c disc
Montreal	$2.7950-8440	$2.8030-8040	.75-.85c disc	2.50-2.65c disc
Amsterdam	5.38-42fl	5.39½-40½fl	2¼-1¼c prem	5-4c prem
Brussels	79.50-80.20f	79.80-90f	15-5c prem	19-9c prem
Copenhagen	15.24-35k	15.30½-31½k	255-70ore prem	170ore prem-200re disc
Dublin	1.3260-3300p	1.3315-3325p	05p prem-10p disc	05p prem-15p disc
Frankfurt	4.94-5.06m	4.97½-98½m	2¾-1¾pf prem	5-4pf prem
Lisbon	130.00-131.50e	130.45-65e	85c prem-05c disc	86c prem-86c disc
Madrid	193.70-195.20p	194.10-20p	21c prem-60c disc	145-230c disc
Milan	2347-60lr	2356½-58½lr	8½-11½lr disc	30½-33½lr disc
Oslo	12.71-83k	12.72½-73½k	220-70ore prem	175-20ore prem
Paris	11.42-52f	11.48½-49½f	4¼-3¼c prem	7¾-6¾c prem
Stockholm	10.69-78k	10.70½-71½k	685-785ore disc	2430-2530ore disc
Tokyo	474-84y	476½-77½y	280-210y prem	670-600y prem
Vienna	35.00-35sch	35.27-32sch	12-8gro prem	30-20gro prem
Zurich	4.47-54f	4.51-52f	3-2c prem	8¼-7¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 1.2% to 104.0%.

Other Markets

Australia	2.0075-2.0225
Bahrein	0.8867-0.8897
Finland	9.3890-9.4290
Greece	115.15-117.15
Hongkong	12.3980-12.3480
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6410-0.6440
Malaysia	5.2220-5.2520
Mexico	54.35-55.85
New Zealand	2.4755-2.4955
Saudi Arabia	7.8345-7.8645
Singapore	4.87-4.90
South Africa	1.7865-1.8015

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	104.0	−23.4
US dollar	98.6	−5.3
Canadian dollar	84.7	−18.4
Schilling	114.1	+21.6
Belgian franc	108.4	−9.8
Danish kroner	90.1	−9.3
Deutsche mark	118.3	+37.2
Swiss franc	133.8	+73.3
Guilder	112.8	+16.0
French franc	87.2	−9.2
Lira	61.7	−53.1
Yen	148.7	+44.5

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement, December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7630-1.7650
† Canada	1.1939-1.1942
Netherlands	2.2980-2.3000
Belgium	33.97-34.01
Denmark	6.5125-6.5175
West Germany	2.1205-2.1230
Portugal	50.35-50.50
Spain	82.60-82.70
Italy	1000.4-1000.6
Norway	5.4150-5.4200
France	4.8825-4.8875
Sweden	4.5625-4.5675
Japan	203.00-203.20
Austria	14.98-15.01
Switzerland	1.9180-1.9210

* Ireland quoted in US currency. † Canada $1 : US $0.8372-0.8375

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6660	+4.72	+0.68	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.98718	+3.41	−0.63	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.59361	+4.49	+0.45	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.98687	+2.39	−1.65	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.81390	+2.56	−1.48	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.695394	+4.07	+0.03	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1231.04	+6.33	+2.29	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 17¾-18¼; seven days, 19¼-19¾; one month, 17½-17¾; three months, 16¾-17¼; six months, 16¼-16¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $493.25 (an ounce); pm, $493.50 close, $496.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $509-512 (£216.5-218).
Sovereigns (new): $125-127 (£53-54).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 14 Low 13
Week Fixed: 14-13¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12^{11}/₁₆	2 months	12⅝
3 months	12^{17}/₃₂	3 months	12^{15}/₃₂

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	13^{5}/₁₆-13¼	3 months	13⅜
3 months	12^{15}/₁₆-12⅞	4 months	13
4 months	12½-12⅝	6 months	12½
6 months	11^{15}/₁₆-11^{11}/₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15¾-15¼	7 months	13¾-12¾
2 months	15¼-15½	8 months	13¾-12¾
3 months	14-13¾	9 months	13½-12⅞
4 months	14½-14¼	10 months	13½-12⅞
5 months	14¼-14	11 months	13¼-12⅞
6 months	13-12¾	12 months	12⅞-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14¾-14½	6 months	12^{15}/₁₆-12^{13}/₁₆
3 months	13¾-13⅝	12 months	12⅝-12½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅞	3 months	13½
7 days	14⅞	6 months	12¾
1 month	14¼	1 year	12⅞

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14½-14¼ Close 13¼

1 week	14½-14¼	6 months	13-12¾
1 month	14^{11}/₁₆-14^{9}/₁₆	9 months	12^{15}/₁₆-12^{11}/₁₆
3 months	13^{13}/₁₆-13^{7}/₁₆	12 months	12¾-12⅝

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 14 | 6 months 13½

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Wall Street

New York, Feb 2.—Stocks dropped decisively and persistently throughout the day. The declines overwhelmed advances by 1,319 to 286, with 302 unchanged. The average price per share was down 0.76. The NYSE composite index was 72.67, down 1.60.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 15.10 points to close at 932.17. Volume rose slightly to 44,070,000 shares from Friday's 41,160,000.

Experts agreed the comparatively light volume again today meant there was little cause for concern so far in the market's *drop. Rather they contend traders* have moved aside for a while to see what President Reagan will propose in his speech later this week.

The economy and inflation remain as major problems and last week's prime rate reductions to 19½ per cent at some banks had few followers although several more banks did lower their broker loan rates to 19 per cent.

Boeing Co lost 1¼ to 38¾ despite news of improved fourth-quarter profit and an increased dividend. But Boeing also forecast flat 1961 sales.

Inco Ltd slipped ¾ to 18¾. Its fourth quarter profit was only about half of the year earlier level. Chrysler tacked on ⅛ to 5⅜. United Autoworkers approved wage concessions proposed as part of Chrysler's rescue package.

Several semiconductor companies have reported slowing order rates in recent weeks, prompting weakness in the group. GCA, which dropped 13 points on Friday on news that its order backlog had declined, lost two today to 47.

US commodities

New York, Feb 2. GOLD at the Comex closed at $482 an ounce for February. Feb, $480.00-484.00; March, $485.50; April, $490.00-494.00; June, $500.50-505.50; Aug, $514.00; Oct, $528.60; Dec, $538.40-540.00; Feb, $555.00; April, $564.00; June, $576.60; Aug, $589.40; Oct, $602.20; Dec, $615.00.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD: Feb, $480.00; March, $487.00-485.00; April, $491.70; June, $505.00-505.00; July, $504.60; Sept, $521.50; Oct, $527.10; Dec, $538.90; Jan, $543.70.

SILVER at the Comex closed at $12.80 an ounce. Feb, 1,282.00c; March, 1,295.00-1,300.00c; April, 1,315.00c; May, 1,334.00c; July, 1,372.00c; Sept, 1,410.00c; Dec, 1,466.50c; Jan, 1,485.00c; March, 1,522.00c; May, 1,560.00c; July, 1,596.00c; Sept, 1,635.00c; Dec, 1,689.00c.

COPPER futures at the Comex settled 1.40 to 1.50 cents lower in nearbys with March at 82.80 cents, down 1.40 cents. Feb, 81.55c; March, 82.60-82.90c; April, 84.15c; May, 85.40-85.85c; July, 87.40-88.00c; Sept, 89.90c; Dec, 93.00c; Jan, 93.60c; March, 95.55c; May, 96.70c; July, 98.45c; Sept, 100.00c; Dec, 102.30c.

COTTON futures fell 0.85 cent to 1.10 cents in sluggish midsession trade with spot March losing least at 88.50 cents. March, 88.51c-88.60c; May, 90.00c-90.05c; July, 90.40c-90.50c; Oct, 86.35c; Dec, 83.50c-83.40c; March, 84.25c-84.50c; May, 84.75c-85.25c; July, 85.25c-85.75c.

COCOA settlement prices were: March, $1,870; May, $1,920; July, $1,980; Sept, $2,030; Dec, $2,075; March, $2,135.

COFFEE futures closed weaker with losses of 0.39 cent in spot March at 121.97 cents a lb and of 0.25 cent in nearbys.—March, 121.80-122.20c; May, 126.90-127.25c; July, 129.10-129.35c; Sept, 131.00-131.50c; Dec, 130.10-130.50c; March, 129.00c; May, 130.00-130.01c.

SUGAR futures suffered losses on selling sparked trade projections showing declining world consumption. Prices lost 1.37 to 0.70 cents, with spot March closing 1.37 cents lower at 25.42 cents a lb.—March, 25.35-25.50c; May, 26.00-26.05c; July, 26.41c; Sept, 25.96c; Oct, 25.75c; Jan, 23.50-23.80c; March, 23.60-24.00c; May, 23.60-23.90c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS closed higher, up 6 to 9 cents a bushel. March 737½c-726c; May 763½c-754½c; July 785½c-775½c; Aug, 791c-781c; Sept, 795c-787c; Nov, 808c-800c; Jan, 825½c-819½c; March 844c-838½c. SOYABEAN OIL futures finished 0.40 to 0.06 cent per lb higher. March 23.10c-23.15c; May 23.90c-23.95c; July 21.75c; Aug, 25.00c-25.05c; Sept, 25.25c-25.30c; Oct, 23.60c; Dec, 26.30c-26.35c; Jan, 26.31c; March 26.50c-26.60c. SOYABEAN MEAL futures ended up $3.90 to $0.80 per ton. March $215.50-$215.00; May $223.50-$223.30; July $229.50-$229.30; Aug, $232.00-$232.50; Sept, $234.00-$234.50; Oct, $233.00-$234.00; Dec, $235.80-$235.90; Jan, $237.00-$237.20.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT was firm.—March, 471½c-456c; May, 477½c-470c; July, 467c-457½c; Sept, 478½c-469c; Dec, 501c-493c; March, 515c-514½c. MAIZE futures were very steady.—March, 358½c-353c; May, 368½c-365c; July, 373½c-371¼c; Sept, 371½c-369c; Dec, 366½c-364c; March, 376c-374½c. OATS were easy.—March, 219c-212c; May, 217½c-212c; July, 209c-205c; Sept, 208c-204c; Dec, 217c-214c.

	Feb 2	Jan 30
Allied Chem	49½	50
Allied Stores	21	21¼
Allis Chalmers	33⅛	33¾
Alcoa	62⅝	61⅛
Amax Inc	41⅞	42⅝
Amerada Hess	36	36⅞
Am Airlines	9½	9⅝
Am Brands	71⅛	74⅝
Am Broadcast	27¾	29¾
Am Can	29½	29⅝
Am Cyanamid	30¼	30⅛
Am Elec Power	17	17¼
Am Home	30⅝	30⅞
Am Motors	4⅛	4
Am Nat Res	46	46½
Am Standard	31⅝	32
Am Telephone	51⅝	52⅞
AMF Inc	21	21¼
Armco Steel	35	34⅜
Asarco	37⅞	39⅝
Ashland Oil	30⅝	31⅛
Atlantic Richfield	57⅛	58⅛
Avco	28	27⅛
Avon Products	33½	33⅞
Bankers Tst NY	31½	31⅝
Bank of America	26½	27⅛
Bank of NY	34¼	34⅛
Beatrice Foods	17⅞	17⅞
Bendix	61⅞	61⅛
Bethlehem Steel	25	25⅜
Boeing	38⅝	39¾
Boise Cascade	34⅛	34½
Borden	26⅝	28½
Borg Warner	39⅝	40⅛
Bristol Myers	49⅝	49⅝
BP	39⅜	38⅝
Burlington Ind	18⅞	18½
Burlington Nthn	64⅛	67⅞
Burroughs	48⅞	50¼
Campbell Soup	32⅝	32⅝
Canadian Pacific	38½	38⅝
Caterpillar	55	55⅝
Celanese	63⅜	64⅝
Central Soya	16⅞	16⅝
Chase Manhat	44	43⅝
Chem Bank NY	45½	45⅞
Chesapeake Ohio	41⅝	41½
Chrysler	5⅜	5¼
Citicorp	22⅝	22⅞
Cities Service	43⅝	44⅞
Clark Equip	37¼	37⅝
Coca Cola	32⅜	33½
Colgate	16½	14⅝
CBS	48⅝	50⅜
Columbia Gas	37⅛	38⅞
Combustion Eng	40½	41½
Comwlth Edison	18⅝	18⅝
Conoco	58	60
Cons Edison	24	24½
Cons Foods	24⅞	24⅜
Cons Power	16⅝	18⅞
Continental Grp	32⅜	33
Control Data	61⅞	63¾
Corning Glass	59⅜	59⅞
CPC Intnl	58⅞	58⅞
Crane	39⅜	40⅜
Crocker Int	36⅛	36⅜
Crown Zeller	40⅞	40⅞
Dart & Kraft	43	43⅜
Deere	42⅛	42⅝
Delta Air	63⅞	65⅜
Detroit Edison	11¼	11½
Disney	51½	52⅞
Dow Chemical	33½	34⅛
Dresser Ind	43⅜	46⅜
Duke Power	17⅛	17⅛
Du Pont	44⅞	45⅝
Eastern Air	7⅝	7⅛
Eastman Kodak	69⅛	69½
Eaton Corp	29	29
El Paso Nat Gas	20⅝	22⅝
Equitable Life	17½	17⅞
Esmark	51	51⅛
Evans P. D.	19	19⅛
Exxon Corp	75⅞	77⅛
Fed Dept Stores	31⅛	31⅝
Firestone	10	10⅛
Fst Chicago	15½	15⅜

	Feb 2	Jan 30
Fst Nat Boston	34⅛	35⅛
Fst Penn Corp	4⅛	4⅛
Ford	19½	19⅞
GAF Corp	13⅛	13⅛
Gen Dynamics	33⅞	34⅛
Gen Electric	60⅞	61⅞
Gen Foods	31⅛	31⅞
Gen Mills	29⅛	29⅝
Gen Motors	45⅛	46⅜
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅛	4¼
Gen Tel Elec	28	29⅛
Gen Tire	20	21⅛
Genesco	3⅝	3⅝
Georgia Pacific	27⅜	27⅞
Getty Oil	78	81⅛
Gillette	27⅞	27⅜
Goodrich	22⅝	22⅞
Goodyear	17⅞	17⅛
Gould Inc	25⅞	26⅜
Grace	50⅝	52⅞
Gt Atlic & Pacific	5⅛	5⅜
Greyhound	14	14⅛
Grumman Corp	23	23⅛
Gulf Oil	37⅛	38⅛
Gulf & West	14⅝	15⅛
Heinz H. J.	47⅛	47½
Hercules	20⅛	21
Honeywell	97½	99⅝
IC Inds	29	29⅛
Ingersoll	69⅛	69½
Inland Steel	30⅛	30⅛
IBM	63⅜	64⅞
Int Harvester	23⅝	24⅜
INCO	18⅝	19⅜
Int Paper	42	42⅛
Int Tel Tel	28⅛	28⅛
Irving Bank	48⅛	48⅛
Jewel Co	35⅝	35½
Jim Walter	27⅛	28⅛
Johns-Manville	21½	21½
Johnson & John	94⅛	95⅜
Kaiser Alumin	23⅛	23⅜
Kennecott	24	25⅛
Kerr McGee	70⅞	72⅝
Kimberly Clark	57	57⅛
K Mart	17½	17⅛
Kroger	20⅛	20
L.T.V. Corp	19⅝	21⅛
Litton	70⅛	73
Lockheed	28½	29½
Lucky Stores	13⅞	14
Manuf Hanover	31½	32
Mapco	43⅝	43⅞
Marathon Oil	64	65⅛
Marine Midland	16	16⅛
Martin Marietta	66½	68⅜
McDonnell	42⅝	43⅞
Mead	25½	25⅞
Merck	82⅝	82⅞
Minnesota Mng	57⅜	58⅛
Mobil Oil	70⅞	73
Monsanto	69½	72½
Morgan J. P.	50⅛	50⅛
Motorola	65	64½
NCR Corp	59⅛	61⅞
NL Industries	62⅞	66
Nabisco	27⅞	28⅛
Nat Distillers	27	28⅛
Nat Steel	25½	26
Norfolk West	41⅛	43⅞
NW Bancorp	28⅝	28⅝
Norton Simon	14⅞	15⅛
Occidental Pet	28⅞	30⅛
Ogden	32⅛	33⅞
Olin Corp	20⅝	20⅝
Owens-Illinois	24⅛	24½
Pacific Gas Elec	20⅛	20⅜
Pan Am	4½	4⅛
Penney J. C.	21⅛	22⅞
Pennzoil	39½	41⅞
Pepsico	29⅞	30⅛
Pfizer	49	50⅞
Phelps Dodge	34⅛	35
Philip Morris	42½	43½
Phillips Petrol	48⅝	51
Polaroid	24⅛	25⅛
PPG Ind	41½	42⅝
Proctor Gamble	67	67

	Feb 2	Jan 30
Pub Ser El & Gas	18⅞	18⅞
Rapid American	25½	25½
Raytheon	91⅝	94½
RCA Corp	27½	28
Republic Steel	25	25⅛
Reynolds Ind	44⅞	44⅝
Reynolds Metal	34½	35⅛
Rockwell Int	36⅛	37½
Royal Dutch	89⅝	90⅛
Safeways	30⅛	31⅞
St Regis Paper	34⅞	34⅛
Santa Fe Ind	94	98
SCM	24⅞	25½
Schlumberger	102⅝	105⅜
Scott Paper	24⅞	25⅛
Seagram	59⅜	60½
Sears Roebuck	15⅝	15⅝
Shell Oil	46⅛	47½
Shell Trans	39⅝	40½
Signal Co	23⅝	24⅝
Singer	14	14⅛
Sony	15	15
Sta Cal Edison	24	24⅞
Southern Pacific	39⅛	41½
Southern Rly	82	81
Sperry Corp	54	55
Std Brands	27½	28
Std Oil Califnia	88	91¼
Std Oil Indiana	66⅛	68
Std Oil Ohio	58⅛	60
Sterling Drug	20⅝	21⅝
Stevens J. P.	13⅞	14⅛
Sunbeam Corp	17⅞	18⅛
Sun Comp	37⅛	38½
Teledyne	165⅝	180⅛
Tenneco	46⅛	47⅞
Texaco	46⅞	48½
Texas East Corp	65	68⅛
Texas Inst	108	110⅛
Texas Utilities	17½	17½
Textron	28⅝	29
TWA	19⅛	20⅞
Travelers Corp	38⅛	39½
TRW Inc	55⅛	56
UAL Inc	20⅝	19
Union Carbide	54⅛	57⅞
Union Oil Calif	36⅞	38⅝
Un Pacific Corp	68⅝	70
Uniroyal	5⅝	6
United Brands	15½	16⅞
US Industries	9⅞	9⅛
US Steel	26⅞	27⅜
Utd Technol	54	58⅛
Wachovia	18⅛	18
Warner Lambert	22⅞	22⅞
Wells Fargo	29⅛	30⅛
West'n Bancorp	34½	34
Westinghse Elec	28⅝	29⅝
Weyerhauser	34⅛	34⅛
Whirlpool	19½	19½
White Motor	2⅝	2⅝
Woolworth	26⅛	24⅝
Xerox Corp	55⅝	56
Zenith	16	16⅛

Canadian Prices

	Feb 2	Jan 30
Abitibi	25	25
Alcan Alumin	38⅞	39⅞
Algoma Steel	41	42½
Bell Telephone	18⅝	18⅝
Cominco	63	67⅛
Cons Bathurst	22⅛	22½
Gulf Oil	24⅛	24⅝
Hawker Sid Can	24	25
Hudson Bay Min	31⅛	32⅛
Hudson Bay Oil	23⅜	24⅛
Imasco	31⅛	32⅛
Imperial Oil	34⅛	35⅛
Int Pipe	15½	15⅝
Mass.-Fergsn	9½	9⅝
Royal Trust	19	19½
Seagram	66½	67⅛
Steel Co	35⅛	38½
Thomson N 'A'	21⅛	21½
Walker Hiram	27½	27⅞
WCT	15	14½

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 2.3440 (2.3600); three months, 2.3660 (2.3820); Canadian dollar, 1.1955 (1.1946).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was (420.85). The futures index was (439.93).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 931.17 (947.27); transportation, 392.70 (402.22); utilities, 111.30 (112.83); 65 stocks, 365.80 (370.38).

New York Stock Exchange index, composite, 72.67 (74.27); industrials, 84.51 (86.55); transportation, 73.66 (74.35); utilities, 37.69 (38.28); financial, 67.85 (68.50).

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
46.6	28.8	International	45.1	49.0	1.78
24.4	22.8	Pref & Gilts	21.5	23.3	13.98
27.1	23.7	Smaller Co's	25.4	27.6	3.99
		Crescent Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh. 031-226 4931			
41.9	25.2	American Fnd	38.8	41.9	0.89
75.9	56.8	International	74.4	80.3	2.79
53.0	41.7	Reserves Fnd	47.8	51.6	5.97
47.7	40.4	High Dist	41.2	44.4	10.98
		E. F. Winchester Fund Mngt Ltd. 11 Bloomsbury Sq, WC1A 2RA. 01-623 8893			

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		M & G Securities. Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588			
62.6	48.2	Amer & Gen Inc	57.8	62.1	2.16
66.5	50.6	Do Accum	62.1	66.8	2.16
64.6	45.1	Amer Recovery	61.1	65.5	1.83
66.8	48.3	Do Accum	64.9	69.4	1.83
140.7	71.1	Australasian Inc	111.1	118.9	0.38
146.9	72.6	Do Accum	116.1	124.2	0.38
142.5	103.6	Commod & Gen	132.9	142.6	3.17
165.6	116.7	Do Accum	155.3	167.1	3.37
174.8	131.9	Compound	174.8	186.9	3.32
121.1	65.5	Conv Tst Grwth	110.7	118.5	2.95
77.4	71.8	Do Income	68.9	72.8	11.49
171.9	147.2	Charifund (2)	158.2	157.6	9.41
267.2	211.4	Do Accum (2)	247.1	251.5	9.41

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 48 St Martin's Lane, WC2N 4EP. 01-240 3434			
169.3	122.2	Capital (2)	157.8	169.6	2.80
217.1	153.5	Do Accum	202.6	217.8	2.80
228.7	182.1	Income (2)	202.6	217.8	8.67
381.6	289.0	Do Accum	349.6	375.9	8.67
123.6	95.3	General (3)	117.0	125.8	4.44
165.0	125.6	Do Accum	158.4	170.3	4.44
26.4	22.9	Europe (2)	20.5	22.0	3.55
27.9	23.8	Do Accum	24.0	25.8	3.55
137.0	110.0	Smaller Co's	137.0	147.0	3.17
		Scottish Equitable Fund Managers Ltd. 28 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh. 031-556 9101			

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Barclays Life Assurance Co. Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, E7. 01-534 5544			
150.1	115.7	Barclaybonds	183.2	181.3	..
154.2	129.5	Equity 'B' Bond	145.8	153.3	..
125.4	112.1	Gilt Edge 'B' Bnd	121.1	127.5	..
155.1	136.8	Prop 'B' Bond	155.1	163.3	..
113.1	86.1	Intl B Bond	104.4	109.9	..
137.7	120.3	Man 'B' Bond	132.5	139.5	..
130.9	118.1	Money 'B' Bond	120.9	127.3	..
154.3	121.2	Man Pen Acc	148.8	156.5	..
140.1	113.0	Do Initial	134.5	141.6	..
138.6	115.3	Gilt E Pen Acc	134.9	142.0	..
123.1	106.0	Do Initial	119.0	125.3	..
138.8	122.4	Money Pen Acc	136.8	144.1	..
121.7	112.2	Do Initial	121.7	128.2	..

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Irish Life Assurance. 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2. 01-628 8253			
245.4	208.1	Prop Modules	214.8	226.1	..
265.5	259.4	Do Growth (3)	256.0	269.4	..
134.0	126.2	Do Series 2	119.9	126.2	..
150.2	135.9	Exmpt Managed	134.8	141.9	..
267.6	267.7	Managed Fnd	251.5	264.7	..
115.7	103.7	Do Series 2	101.1	106.4	..
88.3	75.9	Blue Chip Fnd	79.4	83.6	..
116.7	98.9	Do Series 2	106.6	112.3	..
		Langham Life Assurance. Langham Hse, Holmbrook Dr, NW4. 01-203 5211			
179.1	168.5	Property Bond	179.1	188.5	..
85.9	77.6	WISP Spec Man	85.9	90.4	..
71.8	66.8	Langham A Plan	71.5	75.6	..

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Prudential Pensions Ltd. Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222			
36.10	28.90	Equity	£ 36.24	38.38	..
24.00	20.30	Fixed Int	£ 23.64	24.25	..
42.43	35.80	Property	£ 42.43	43.74	..
		Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. Tunbridge Wells, Kent. 0892 22271			
308.0	264.3	Prop (1st Issue)	..	308.0	..
96.2	100.0	Prop (2nd Issue)	96.2	101.2	..
95.4	99.2	Managed Fund	95.4	100.4	..
		Save & Prosper Group. 4 Great St Helen's, EC3P 3EP. 01-554 8899			
170.0	148.1	Balanced Bond	167.4	177.2	..
147.7	131.8	Gilt Fnd	145.6	154.1	..

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd. 41-43 Maddox St, London, W1R 9LA. 01-499 4923			
195.5	167.4	Managed Fund	190.5	200.6	..
338.8	250.4	Do Equity	316.0	332.7	..
194.3	173.3	Do Fixed Int	189.5	199.5	..
205.5	187.2	Do Property	205.5	216.4	..
147.0	139.1	Do Cash	147.0	154.8	..
122.2	94.8	Do Int	120.1	126.5	..
		Vanbrugh Pensions Limited			
142.4	121.8	Managed Fnd	138.4	145.7	..
167.4	122.6	Equity Fnd	156.9	165.2	..
131.8	118.1	Fixed Int Fnd	127.5	134.3	..
139.0	122.7	Property Fnd	139.0	146.3	..
16.50	17.62	Guar Fnd (?)	..	16.82	..
		Welfare Insurance.			

Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts remain firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 26. Dealings End, Feb 6. § Contango Day, Feb 9. Settlement Day, Feb 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red Yield
99⁷⁄₁₆	89	Treas	9¼%	1981	99⁷⁄₁₆	..	9.804	13.352
95½	91	Exch	8¼%	1981	98½	..	8.387	13.093
95½	91	Exch	9½%	1981	98½	+¹⁄₁₆	9.645	12.799
95¼	85½	Exch	3%	1981	95¼	+⅛	3.154	12.611
100¼	93⅝	Exch	12¾%	1981	100⅛	+¹⁄₁₆	12.734	12.536
96⅝	88	Treas	8½%	1980-82	96⁵⁄₁₆	−¹⁄₁₆	8.803	12.457
94	81⅝	Treas	3%	1982	94	+⅛	3.191	9.243
102⅜	90½	Treas	14%	1982	101¼	+⅛	13.836	12.772
94¹⁵⁄₁₆	85⅝	Treas	8¼%	1982	94⅝	−¹⁄₁₆	8.748	12.786
94¹⁵⁄₁₆	85¼	Exch	9¼%	1982	94⅝	−¹⁄₁₆	9.808	13.225
93⅞	84⅛	Exch	8¾%	1983	93⅝	−¹⁄₁₆	9.377	12.783
87⅛	76½	Exch	3%	1983	87⅛	+⅛	3.444	10.125
98⅜	85¾	Treas.	12%	1983	97¹⁵⁄₁₆	−⅛	12.253	13.155
93½	84½	Treas	9¼%	1983	92¹⁵⁄₁₆	−⅛	9.967	12.770
102⅝	94¼	Exch	13½%	1983	101⅛	+¹⁄₁₆	13.350	12.989
93¾	84½	Exch	10%	1983	92¹⁵⁄₁₆	−⅛	10.774	13.087
85⅝	76⅝	Fund	5½%	1982-84	85⅝	+⅛	6.423	11.389
97⁷⁄₁₆	86⅞	Exch	11¼%	1984	95½	−⅛	11.780	13.100
104⅝	94½	Exch	14%	1984	102⁷⁄₁₆	+¹⁄₁₆	13.668	13.054
78¾	68¼	Exch	3%	1984	78¾	+⅛	3.810	10.663
98⅝	88	Treas	12%	1984	96⅞	−¹⁄₁₆	12.387	13.088
109¼	97⅞	Treas	15%	1985	106¾	−⅛	14.052	12.816
73½	68¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas	3%	1985	73½	..	4.082	10.890

MEDIUMS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red Yield
100¾	89½	Exch	12¼%	1985	97⁷⁄₁₆	..	12.605	13.040
97⅛	93½	Exch	11¾%	1986	94⅛	..	12.378	13.169
89⅞	76⅞	Treas	8½%	1984-86	86½	..	9.894	12.121
105⅝	90⅝	Exch	13¼%	1987	100¼	..	13.279	13.310
81½	70¼	Fund	6½%	1985-87	80¼	..	8.274	11.398
97¼	91¼	Treas	12%	1987	96	..	12.912	13.626
83	71⅞	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	79⅞	..	9.881	12.472
64⅛	54⅞	Trans	3%	1978-88	63⅛	..	4.776	10.295
95	82⅝	Treas	11½%	1989	88⅝	..	12.966	13.899

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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DOLLAR STOCKS

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PROPERTY

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[illegible]

RECENT ISSUES

[illegible]

RIGHTS ISSUES

[illegible]

Law Report February 2 1981

House of Lords

Rating official's formation of opinion valid

Provident Mutual Life Assurance Association v Derby Borough Council

Fenclose Securities Ltd v Same

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord *Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Keith of* Kinkel, Lord Roskill and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered January 29]

Where a rating authority had by resolution brought into operation the provisions of the General Rate Act, 1967, for the rating of unoccupied buildings, the implementation of that resolution was administrative in character. Therefore where the *principal* rating assistant was properly authorized to form an opinion on when buildings could reasonably be expected to be completed and to serve completion notices on the owners, the notices were valid. No further resolution of the authority was required to form the requisite opinion.

The House of Lords, Lord Bridge dissenting, so held in dismissing appeals by Provident Mutual Life Assurance Association and Fenclose Securities Ltd, each at the material time the owners of certain new buildings in Derby, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Megaw, Lord Justice Shaw and Sir Patrick Browne) which had allowed an appeal by Derby Borough Council, the rating authority, from the part of the decision of Judge Brooke-Willis at Derby County Court that held that "completion notices" in respect of unoccupied property, served by the authority's principal rating assistant, under paragraph 8(1) of Schedule 1 to the Act of 1967, were a nullity because the function of forming an opinion was a function with respect to levying a rate and could only be discharged by the authority.

Schedule I by paragraph 8 provides: "(1) Where a rating authority are of opinion—(a) that the erection of a building within their area has been completed; or (b) that the work remaining to be done . . . is such that the erection of the building can reasonably be expected to be completed within three months, and that the building is, or when completed will be, comprised in a relevant hereditament, the authority may serve on the owner of the building a notice (. . . "a completion notice") stating that the erection of the building is to be treated for the purposes of this Schedule as completed on the date of service of the notice or on such later date as may be specified by the notice."

Mr W. J. Glover, QC, and Mr Guy Roots for the ratepayer owners; Mr Raymond Sears, QC, and Mr Christopher Cochrane for the rating authority.

LORD ROSKILL, with whose speech Lord Wilberforce, Lord Simon and Lord Keith agreed, said that the decision in the two present appeals governed 24 other appeals initially before the county court judge.

They concerned the rating of unoccupied property in Derby. Section 17 of the General Rate Act empowered a rating authority to resolve that the provisions of Schedule 1 with respect to the rating of unoccupied property should apply to their area and come into operation in that area on such day as might be specified in the resolution. On February 12, 1975, the authority adopted a resolution bringing Schedule 1 into operation. Paragraph 1(1) of Schedule I provided that where by virtue of a resolution under section 17 the schedule was in operation, then, subject to the due fulfilment of the remaining provisions of the schedule, the effect of the resolution was that "the owner" of any relevant hereditament unoccupied for a *continuous period exceeding three* months "stall be rated".

On June 2, 1976, the authority, in purported compliance with paragraph 8(1), served completion notices on the building owners over a facsimile signature of the authority's treasurer. Those notices were completed photocopies of a typed form with blanks, the original blank form having been signed by the treasurer. The blanks were completed by the authority's principal rating assistant, a Mr Wells. He filled in the name of the addressees, the description of the building in respect of which the notice was given, and the date on which it was to be treated as completed for the purposes of Schedule 1.

The owners appealed to the county court against the completion dates specified in the notices and for the first time took the point that the notices were a nullity. The judge upheld that contention; but the Court of Appeal allowed the authority's appeal. The only issue argued before the House was whether the notices were valid or a nullity.

It was argued for the ratepayers that the notices were invalid because there was no power in the authority to delegate the performance of their rights and duties under section 17; that if there were such power to delegate there had been no such delegation to the treasurer; and that if there had been such power, the treasurer did not form the "opinion" required by paragraph 8(1); and that there being no delegation to Mr Wells, his opinion could not be that of *either the authority or their* treasurer.

The position of the treasurer and Mr Wells should be considered. In 1974 the authority had resolved to appoint their treasurer as "the proper officer for the purpose of . . . section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972". Section 151 provided: "Without prejudice to section 111 . . . , every local authority shall make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and shall secure that one of their officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs." It was thus clear that the treasurer was the officer properly appointed for administration of the authority's financial affairs which clearly included the collection of rates. Equally clearly he could not possibly perform all the duties personally; Parliament could not have so intended.

As to Mr Wells, the judge had concluded on the evidence that, inter alia, the "opinion" that the work remaining to be done on each building referred to in each completion notice could reasonably be expected to be completed in three months was the opinion of Mr Wells alone, and neither the authority nor any of its committees nor the treasurer had had the opportunity of considering the matter or forming any opinion thereon.

The building owners submitted that a resolution of the authority was required before any valid opinion could be formed for the purpose of paragraph 8(1) and so before any valid notices could be served.

His Lordship considered that argument sound. The operation of section 17 and the consequent coming into force of Schedule 1 could not legitimately be described as making and levying a rate. What those provisions enabled a rating authority to do was to bring within the fold of ratepayers owners of the unoccupied property specified in the particular notices. Nor could his Lordship treat the giving of a paragraph 8 notice as "making or levying" a rate requiring a formal resolution of the authority. The crucial question was whether the action and opinion of Mr Wells complied with the paragraph 8(1) requirements. What they required was simply the formation of an opinion; the opinion was not final or conclusive. A right of appeal was accorded by paragraph 8(4) to the county court. It was the judge's opinion on appeal which was finally decisive.

There was no dispute that the treasurer himself could have formed the relevant opinion had Mr Wells consulted him and he had formed an independent view on the material Mr Wells placed before him for his consideration. So the argument for the owners was that the opinion of the qualified relevant official was not good enough but that that of his administrative superior based on a report of that qualified official was good enough.

The statutory conditions precedent to the imposition of a fiscal liability must obviously be properly complied with, and the ratepayer, like the taxpayer, was entitled to full protection against the improper exaction of revenue by local as well as by central government. But Parliament had conferred very wide powers on local authorities and plainly contemplated that the actual machinery of enforcement—and collection would not be operated personally by some senior local government official but by his staff. His Lordship regarded the provisions of the latter part of *Schedule 1* as *administrative* in character. Section 151 of the Local Government Act empowered local authorities to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs. The treasurer was the responsible officer for that purpose. His Lordship was quite unable to see why that which Mr Wells did was not done as part of the proper administration of the authority's financial affairs—the collection of rate revenue.

The filling up of blank forms previously signed with a facsimile signature could in some cases lead to an abuse and, indeed, to an illegal exercise of power. It was the court's duty to see that that method of administration did not lead to any such abuse. If the county court judge's view had prevailed the authority would in consequence have lost some half a million pounds of rate revenue; so no doubt they would, if they had not already done so, take steps to see that they did not again expose themselves to a possible huge loss of revenue like that because of some administrative failure of the kind suggested against them in the present cases.

His Lordship agreed with the *Court of Appeal* for the reasons given by Sir Patrick Browne. The question was not whether the treasurer delegated power to Mr Wells but whether what Mr Wells did was authorized by the treasurer so as to be the relevant opinion of the authority. His Lordship thought it was and would dismiss the appeals.

LORD BRIDGE, dissenting, entertained no doubt that the formation of the requisite opinion which must precede the service of a "completion notice" under paragraph 8(1) was a function of the rating authority which one would expect to be delegated to a suitably qualified officer. How could any officer claim to be empowered to form the opinion on the authority's behalf without such delegation?

His Lordship did not think the delegation of "administration of financial affairs" was apt to embrace the formation of an opinon under paragraph 8(1) as to when a new building could reasonably be expected to be completed. The ability to form such an opinion lay within the competence, not of a financial administrator, but of a building surveyor. He would allow the appeal.

Solicitors: Braby & Waller; Sharpe, Pritchard & Co

Few applications by former spouses

In re Fuller, deceased

Although section 15 of the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act, 1975, contemplates proceedings after divorce, the Court of Appeal said, the situations in which it will be appropriate for a former spouse to apply for provision will be comparatively few, such as where periodical payments are ended by the death or capital is unlocked by it under an insurance policy.

The court dismissed, with costs against the legal aid fund, an appeal from Mr Justice Bush in chambers, who had decided that it was reasonable for the deceased to make no financial provision in his will for his former wife, when there had been no change of circumstances since their agreement dividing their assets on divorce.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that the appeal was the first under the 1975 Act in which the appellant was a former spouse. Such applications should not be launched unless there was a real chance of success and judges should look very carefully at applications for the costs of both sides to come out of the estate. Section 3(1) provided specific criteria in paragraphs (a) to (f) for determining reasonable provision, but paragraph (g)—"any other matter . . . which in the circumstances of the case the court may consider relevant"—was also important. Divorce and the sequelae of financial settlement were clearly such a factor.

In the present case the ex-wife was as well-off as the ex-husband, who had made a simple will leaving everything to the woman with whom he had gone to lodge. The ex-husband's estate consisted largely of the money which the ex-wife had paid to him for his share in the *former matrimonial* home.

Mr Justice Purchas delivered a concurring judgment.

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(continued on page 24)

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LEGAL NOTICES

No. 00359 of 1980
In the High Court of Justice Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of STIMP INTERNATIONAL Limited and in the Matter of COMPANIES ACT 1948.
A PETITION to wind up the above-named Company was presented on 23rd day of January 1981 by HAGGIE RAND Limited of Lower Germiston Road, Jupiter, Johannesburg South Africa claiming to be a CREDITOR of the Company will be heard at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Monday the 2nd day of March 1981.
Any CREDITOR or CONTRIBUTORY wishing to oppose or support must ensure that written notice reaches the undersigned by 1600 on 27th February 1981.
A copy of the Petition will be supplied by the undersigned on payment of the prescribed charge. RADCLIFFES & CO. 10 Little College Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3SJ. Solicitors for the Petitioner.



On Valentines Day let The Times make something of your sweet nothings.



On February 14th it's not only what you say, but how you say it, that matters.

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مكبر من الأصل

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

PERSONAL CHOICE

Elizabeth Spriggs as Olive James, a hospital almoner, in tonight's Play for Today, The Cause (BBC 1, 9.25 pm)

● Robert Kee's watchable television history of Ireland (BBC 2, 9.25 pm) tonight reaches the tenth episode of the thirteen. The programme explains the events that led to the bloody civil war sixty years ago. It was the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty that precipitated the internecine struggle. With its signing Ireland was given Dominion status, with an option for the six northern counties to opt out if they so desired, but it also meant that the country had to swear allegiance to the King as head of the Commonwealth and this the diehard Republicans could not stomach because it betrayed everything they had fought for against the British. With the help of archive film and eye witness accounts Mr Kee pieces together the war that split families up and down the country. The IRA took the first initiative and occupied the Fourcourts in Dublin, in defiance of the Free State government and to dislodge them the Irish Army, with weapons left behind by the British, opened fire. In the end the IRA leader, Michael Collins, was killed and 77 members of his army were executed. It was a short-lived war but the events still divide Southern Ireland today.

● We as a nation pride ourselves as being among the most tolerant and liberal countries in the world. What little censorship of the media there is always receives a good airing in public. But all is not as it seems. In the Omnibus programme The First Freedom (BBC 1, 10.35 pm) (the title adapted from a speech by Franklin D. Roosevelt) three case histories are thoroughly examined in which it is claimed, freedom of expression has been denied in this country. The suppression is said to have occurred in the spheres of art, broadcasting and the printed word. The programme also has some informed opinion on how the unknown bureaucrats set the parameters of what we should look at, read and listen to and it brings home to us that freedom of expression is something we should not take for granted.

● Among the unusual characters that Wynford Vaughan-Thomas has this evening on his Countryside in Winter (Radio 4, 7.50 pm) is young Julia Hume of Alnwick, Northumberland. She left her job in a bank a year ago to advise farmers on how to control their vermin. She explains to Keith Allan why she changed her career pattern so dramatically.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools, Colleges: News in French; 9.35 Out of the Past; 9.57 Talkabout; 10.16 Look and Read; 10.38 English language; 11.00 All about hats; 11.17 Television Club; 11.38 Time out of Mind; 12.05 pm Politics and Society. Closedown at 12.30. 12.45 News.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Sheridan Morley is the guest today and he talks about his new book that traces the career of *Gertrude Lawrence*. Also featured is the weekly item, Family Matters; 1.45 Fingerbobs with Rick Jones (r); 2.00 You and Me. What Shape is a Roof? (r).

2.14 For Schools, Colleges: German; 2.40 Factories in Japan. Closedown at 3.00.

3.25 Pobol y Cwm. Welsh serial; 3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2).

4.20 Undercover Elephant. A cartoon entitled Dr Doom's Gloom (r); 4.25 Jackanory. Martin Jarvis with the second part of The Lodger in the Cupboard by Lynne Reid Banks; 4.40 Animal Magic introduced by Johnny Morris with Terry Nutkins. A look at animals and birds with multi-coloured plumage; 5.05 John Craven's Newsround; 5.10 Grange Hill. Part eleven of the very popular serial (at least with my two sons) about the pupils and staff of a mixed secondary school.

5.40 News read by Kenneth Kendall; 5.55 Regional news magazines; 6.20 Nationwide. This evening features the weekly Animal Matters—the advice service on caring for your pets.

6.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. The artistic antipodean introduces two cartoons this evening starring Bugs Bunny and Barney Bear; 7.15 Taxi. An American comedy series about a cab hire firm in New York; 7.40 Alias Smith and Jones starring Pete Duel and Ben Murphy as the former outlaws waiting for their amnesty like Billy Bunter waits for his postal order; 8.30 Seconds Out. A comedy series following the blossoming of a young boxer.

9.00 News read by John Edmunds.

9.25 Play for Today: The Cause by Derek Lister. An industrial dispute at a London Hospital recalls, for a trade unionist, memories of his days fighting in the Spanish Civil War. Starring Jimmy Jewel and Elizabeth Spriggs.

10.35 Omnibus: The First Freedom. A film about people who believe that their work has been censored (see Personal Choice).

11.25 News headlines.

11.30 Platform One. Fred Emery interviews someone whose decisions may have a large impact on our lives. Tonight he talks to Eric Heffer.

12.00 Weather.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: [illegible]

BBC 2

10.00 am Business World. A series of ten programmes with advice for people who own their own small business. (r) Closedown at 10.25 11.00 Play School. The Banger by Eva Figes is the story today and the programme presenters are Chloe Ashcroft and Ben Thomas 11.25 Speak for Yourself. Advice for parents who are apprehensive at the thought of going to their child's school open night. (r) Closedown at 11.50.

2.30 pm Roads to Conflict. Part four of the ten-part series that traces the origins of the Arab/Israeli dispute. 3.00 Illusions of Reality.* Number four of five films about the cinema and public opinion in the 1930s. (r) 3.30 Living City. The penultimate part of a sociological series based on the city of Leicester. (r) *Closedown at 3.55.*

5.40 Harold Lloyd.* He joins the college football team in The Freshman and then performs some of his death-defying antics in Never Weaken. 6.00 The Receivers. Jeremy Beadle with the fifth programme in his series concerning the world's greatest con-men. This evening he shows examples of Natural Deception and Illusion. 6.30 Cartoon Two: Piccolo. An award winning production about two neighbours who fall out when one of them plays his piccolo in the middle of the night. 6.40 Under Sail. Tom Salmon tells the story of the Shamrock V, the finest remaining example of a J class yacht.

6.55 News with a subtitled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.

7.00 Film: Rancho Notorious (1952) starring Marlene Dietrich, Arthur Kennedy and Mel Ferrer. Vern Haskell vows to find the vicious killers of his fiancée in *this Fritz Lang directed western* in which La Dietrich playes her familiar role of dance hall queen.

8.30 Russell Harty. Live from London's Greenwood Theatre. Jan Leeming, the newscaster, sings Hello, Young Lovers.

9.00 Pot Black '81. There is a Commonwealth battle tonight when the holder, Eddie Charlton of Australia meets Jim Wych of Canada.

9.25 Ireland: A Television History written and presented by Robert Kee. Tonight we cover the period of the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty in 1921 and the bloody Civil War which followed (see Personal Choice).

10.20 Jake Thackray and Songs. Tonight Jake sings in the Llandovery Theatre in South Wales. His guest is the cosmopolitan singer and songwriter, Susha.

10.50 Newsnight. Comprehensive coverage of some of today's news stories presented by Peter Snow, Charles Wheeler, John Tusa and *Peter Hobday. The programme* ends at 11.40.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Basic maths for young children; 9.47 The different Jewish religious festivals; 10.04 The importance of autobiographies; 10.26 The Brecon Beacons; 10.48 Mass spectometry; 11.05 Maths for seven- to nine-year olds; 11.22 The need for rest, sleep and exercise; 11.39 The problems and delights of young family life.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch (r). 12.10 Pipkins. 12.30 The Sullivans. Drama series based on an Australian family during World War Two.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News with Robin Houston.

1.30 Crown Court. Continuing the trial of the radio researcher who is being sued for malicious libel by her former employer (r). 2.00 After Noon Plus. Magazine programme for women introduced by Judith Chalmers. Her guest, Mary Berry, has some new recipes for vegetables. 2.45 The Mallens. In this afternoon's episode in the story of passion and lust set in 19thC Northumberland, Donald discovers, on his wedding night, that his bride is not a virgin. Heavens! (r). 3.45 Unforgettable. Join Alan Freeman and wallow in the nostalgia of the music of the Fifties. His guests are Don Lang and Marmalade.

4.15 Dr Snuggles. Cartoon about an inventor. 4.20 Take a Chance. More tales from the theatrical boarding house called the Rose Marie Hotel. 4.45 Ace Reports. *Bob Goody joins Wayne Laryea* and Brian Jacks in this live programme for pre-teenagers. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter. 6.25 Help! Viv Taylor Gee with information that could help solve some of your problems. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Looks Familiar. Denis Norden and guests reminisce about the films, the stars and the variety acts of the Thirties and Forties. 7.30 Ballyskillen Opera House. Comedy series about the manager, his staff and the performers in an Irish Music Hall. The guests tonight are The Bachelors.

8.00 Sapphire and Steel. Another episode in the science fiction mystery serial starring David McCallum and Joanna Lumley.

8.30 George and Mildred. For the first time in twenty six years George remembers their wedding anniversary—and he buys Mildred an expensive present. Starring Brian Murphy and Yootha Joyce (r).

9.00 Cover. Episode three in the story about a spy testing department of the Government starring Alan Howard.

10.00 News.

10.30 Film: Pendulum (1968) starring George Peppard and Jean Seberg. A Washington detective is in trouble when his unfaithful wife is found murdered alongside her lover.

12.25 am Close with Sir Neil Cameron reading from the Dream of Gerontius by Cardinal Newman.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call.
10.00 News.
10.02 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Time to Kill, by Stewart MacKay.
11.00 News.
11.05 *Play*: The Housekeeper, by Mike Parker.
11.35 Wildlife.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.20 Down Your Way.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 The Good Soldier Svejk (3).†
4.00 Borderlands (5).
4.15 Committed to Paper.
4.45 No Fond Return of Love (concl.).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Never Too Late.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now.
7.50 The Countryside in Winter (see Personal Choice).
8.35 Voices in Harmony.†
9.05 In Touch.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Earthsearcher (5).†
11.00 The Worm Forgives the Plough. (7).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping Forecast.

VHF

9.05am Schools: Deutsch für die Oberstufe (3); Music Interlude; Voix de France (3); Music Interlude; News; Music Interlude; Playtime.
10.30-10.45 Listen With Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Let's Move!; Music Interlude: Introducing Science.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: History—Long Ago; Secondary Science: Stories and Rhymes.
11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Allez France!

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Campra, Telemann, Schubert (Sym 8).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Reznicek, Chopin, Rimsky-Korsakov.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Bach.†
10.00 Ensemble, pt 1: Dvorak, Britten.†
10.50 Interval reading.
10.55 Ensemble, pt 2: Spohr.†
11.35 Piano: Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Chopin.†
12.10 pm BBC Scottish SO/Seaman, pt 1: Wagner, Shostakovich (Vln Conc 1—Gruenberg).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.25 BBCSSO, pt 2: Brahms (Sym 2).†
2.10 Talk (D. Stevens): Canzone e Madrigali
2.45 Ensemble (Capricorn): Milhaud, Hummel.†
3.25 Songs, harpsichord: Schubert, Marenzio, Forqueray.†
4.25 Jazz Today.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Talk: What Books I Please.
7.30 Opera Un ballo in maschera, by Verdi (Caballe/Bruson, Pavarotti/ROH/Haitink—live from *Covent Garden), Act I.*†
8.25 The Eternal Husband (5).
8.50 Un ballo in maschera, Act II.†
9.50 Talk (Annan): Running a University.
10.20 Un ballo in maschera, Act III.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Stravinsky.†

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 The Leading Ladies.† 9.02 Glamorous Nights.† 10.02 The Law Game. 10.30 Funny You Should Ask. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Steve Wright. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. *4.32 Peter Powell.* 7.00 Talkabout. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.02 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT).

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Europa. 8.30 Baker's Half-Dozen. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World *Today. 9.30 Financial News.* 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 The English Miniature. 10.00 Discovery. 10.30 John Peel. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 11.25 Scotland This Week. 11.30 Sports International. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Musical Memories. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly Good Show. 2.30 Towards 2000. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Baker's Half-Dozen. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Scotland This Week. 5.15 Just a Minute. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland this Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Classical Record Review. 11.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Report on Religion. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Four Hands in Harmony. 2.30 Towards 2000. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. *World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.*

REGIONAL TV

Anglia

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Out of Town. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 About *Anglia. 7.00-7.30 Unforgettable. 10.30* Too Low for Comfort. 11.15 Kaz. 12.15 am Norfolk Parson Visits America.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00 Closedown. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 8.30-9.00 Cuckoo Waltz. 10.28 News. 10.36 Sunday, Sweet Sunday. 11.05-11.50 Snooker.

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 12.30 pm-1.00 Simply Sewing. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 7.00-7.30 Welcome to the Ceilidh. 10.30 Film: Thursday's Game (Gene Wilder). 12.15 am-12.20 News.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Monte Carlo Show. 11.25 After All That, This. 11.35-12.40 am New Avengers.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 *Lunchtime. 3.45 Looks* Familiar. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Stanley Baxter Big Picture Show. 11.30-11.40 Bedtime.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 *Looks Familiar.* 5.15-5.45 *Diff'rent* Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 Northern Report. 11.00 Fantasy Island. 12.00-12.05 am World's Apart?

Scottish

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Job Spot. 6.30 What's Your Problem? 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Late Call. 10.35-12.30 am Film: Pendulum (George Peppard, Jean Seberg).

ATV

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Left, Right and Centre. 11.10 News. 11.15 Darts Championship. 11.45-12.15 am Barney Miller.

Westward

As Thames except: 12.27 pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 12.30-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 8.30-9.00 The Cuckoo Waltz. 10.32 News. 10.36 Sunday Sweet Sunday. 11.05 Snooker. 11.50-11.55 Faith for Life.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Looks Familiar. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 In Loving Memory. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-12.00 Film: Death of Richie (Ben Gazzara).

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Electric Theatre Show. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Snooker. 11.15 Our Little Town. 11.45-11.48 News.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.35 Film: Die Screaming Marianne (Susan George). 12.20 am Weather followed by Daily Margaret.

HTV

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Play it Again. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Cross Country Detours. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Definition. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.30-12.15 am Film: In Old San Francisco (William Shatner).

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.47 am-10.02 Wales and the Sea. 10.48-11.03 Believe It Or Not. 12.00-12.05 pm Poll a Pill. 12.05-12.10 Calimero. 4.15-4.45 Gwesly Gwirion. 6.00-6.16 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30-11.00 Mae'r Gelyn Oddi Mewn. 11.00-11.30 World in Action. 11.30-12.25 am Have Girls Will Travel.

Entertainments Guide

S Unsold seats at cut price to students just before performance.
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COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
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Tomor & Sat 7.30 Cinderella. Thurs Romeo & Juliet. Fri 7.30: Tosca. 104 balcony seats avail from 10 am on day of perf.

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Ton't & Fri. at 7.30 Un ballo in maschera (Paul Hudson replaces Forbes Robinson all perfs.)
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tomor. at 7.30 Troy Game. A Month in the Country, Les Noces. Thurs. at 8.00. Sat. & Mon. at 7.30 La Fille mal gardé.

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D'OYLY CARTE presents GILBERT & SULLIVAN OPERAS
Evs 7.30. Mats Sat and Feb 11 & 18 at 2.30. Tonight and Tomor The Pirates of Penzance. Thur. until Sat. Iolanthe. Feb 9 to 11 HMS Pinafore. Tkts £2.00 to £7.50.

CONCERTS

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL (01-928 3191) Tonight 7.45 BBC SINGERS John Poole John Scott. Bartok: Four Hungarian Folk Songs: Ligeti: *Lux Aeterna: Kurtag: Omaggio a* Luigi Nono: Maxwell Davies: Solstice of Light.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191) Tonight 8. LPO Kurt Sanderling Jean-Bernard Pommier. Mozart: Piano Concerto in F K459: Bruckner: Symphony 3.

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611
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Mats. Thursdays at 3.0
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PETER BAYLISS
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PAL JOEY
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ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
Ton't 7.30, Tomor 7.00
THE SUICIDE
by Nikolai Erdman
"Highly entertaining farce" Time Out "The RSC has uncovered a masterpiece" Gdn. With: O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (next perf 10 Feb), and Nichols' PASSION PLAY (next perf 13 Feb). Prestel booking 22033. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse, Piccadilly.

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"One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.
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Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
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RODNEY BEWES
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In "An unusually truthful and intelligent comedy" The Observer.
MIDDLE AGE SPREAD.
COMEDY OF THE YEAR WEST END THEATRE AWARDS 1979

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838. Bromley, Kent. 7.45 Sat. 4.30 & 8. Thurs. 2.30. Faith Brook, John Arnatt, Lucy Gutteridge, Tony Caunter, David Troughton in Edgar Wallace's thriller THE CASE OF THE FRIGHTENED LADY.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Last 2 weeks Mon-Sat. 8.15. Mats. Thur. 3.00, Sat. 4.00.
RALPH RICHARDSON
in the National Theatre prod. of
EARLY DAYS
by David Storey
RALPH RICHARDSON: "TRIUMPH" Gdn.
"UNFORGETTABLE" Int Hld Trib
"NOT TO BE MISSED" Punch.
Group Sales 379 6061.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium—seats £3.70. Day seats £2.20. Student standby £1.50) Thurs prev. 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN, by Tom Taylor.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves 8. Fri/Sat 6 & 8.45.
Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams, Martin Connor, Tricia George in
A SATIRICAL REVUE
TOMFOOLERY
Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times
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Swet awards 80
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BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS
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Drama Awards of the Year 1980
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"THE BEST THRILLER" D. T.
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NICOLA PAGETT
in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
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". . . We who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory." Ephesians 1 : 12 (R.S.V.)

BIRTHS

AGNEW.—On 30th January, 1981 at University College Hospital, to Joanna, wife of Jonathan, a son, Edward Colin George who died on 1st February, 1981.

BAYBUTT.—On January 31st, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, W.6, to Sarah and Nick—a son (James Nicholas), brother for Edward.

CLIBBORN.—On 29th January, to Juliet (nee Pagden) and John—a daughter (Araminta Joan), a sister for Imogen and Benedict.

COLDREY.—On February 2nd, 1981, at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, to Elizabeth (nee Macready) and Marc—a daughter.

CORLETT.—On 28th January, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Alexandra (nee Fogden) and Anthony, a son.

DRIBBELL.—On January 31st, at Kingston Hospital, to Janet and Peter—a son (Andrew Michael).

JACK.—To Liza and Raymond—a daughter (Lucy Celia), on January 31st, at St. Mary's, Paddington, Lindo Wing.

LISTER.—On 30th January, 1981, at St. Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Gillian (nee Lewis), and Tony—a son (Adam Anthony), a brother for Timothy David.

MERRYLEES.—On Feb 1st, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Joan and John—a daughter (Charlotte Marie-France Verena), a sister for Richard and George.

MONCUR.—On 1st February, at Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, to Cathy and Tom—a son (Angus Lachlan).

MORRIS.—On 30th January, 1981, at Bedford, to Sheila and Alan, a son—Oliver.

NEWMAN.—On 29th January to Christine (nee Kingsley) and David — a son (Christopher David), a brother for Rachel.

RILEY.—On February 1st, to Pamela (nee Jennings) and Steven — a daughter (Susan Jane), a sister for Felix.

ROBERTS. — On 31st January, 1981, to Christine and John—a son (Jake Sheridan), at St. Thomas' Hospital, London.

ROBERTSON.—On January 30th, 1981, to Jane and John—a daughter, Bethany Alice.

SHIFFNER.—On January 31st, to Rosamund (nee Landon) and Charles—a daughter, Elizabeth.

BIRTHDAYS

HAINES, Simon. Happy 21st. Love Mum, Dad, Laura and Susan.

MARRIAGES

JOSEPH : GLASSBOROW.—On 31st January, 1981, in Stowmarket, Charles Lynn, only son of Mr and Mrs Charles Joseph, of Potterville, Michigan, U.S.A., to Kathryn Lucy, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Glassborow, of Elmswell, Suffolk.

DEATHS

ANSELL.—On 31st January, Mrs C. B. R. Ansell, widow of H. G. Ansell.

ARGYROPOULOS. — On January 31st, 1981, peacefully, at home in London, Panayiotis John, aged 85 years, beloved uncle of George and Tom Dellis, Leia Philios and Vassiki Argyropoulos, John T. Pappas, Vassilki Symeonides, and many other nieces and nephews in Greece and U.S.A. Funeral service in the Greek Cathedral of St. Sophia, Moscow Road, W.2, on Friday, 6th February, at 11 a.m. Enquiries to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 33, Westbourne Grove, W.2, telephone 01-229 9861.

AITKENHEAD, SHEILA (nee Farrell).—On Sunday February 1st. Funeral private. No flowers, but donations to the Biddestone Youth and Community Workshop would be very much appreciated, c/o Barclays Bank, Corsham.

BARRINGTON-MOORE.—On February 1st, Nancy Yulee, peacefully at The Mountbatten Nursing Home, aged 90. Funeral February 5th, 2.30 p.m., Corfe, Nr. Taunton. Flowers to Hatchers, Taunton.

BLAND.—On 1st February, 1981, at Dungate Manor, Reigate Heath, Surrey, Lois Mary, widow of Mark Bland, sister of Lionel Hobson of Australia and Avril Hobson of Bexhill-on-Sea. Funeral service 12.15 p.m., Thursday, 5th February, at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Crawley. All enquiries to Messrs. J. Stoneham & Sons, Redhill 63456.

BOUCHER.—On 29th January, 1981, Charles Anthony. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Henley-on-Thames, on 6th February, at 12 noon. No flowers.

BROOKE, SIR RICHARD, 9th Baronet.—Suddenly but peacefully on 1st February at his home, Oaklands, St. Saviour, Jersey, C.I., in his 93rd year. Funeral service at St. Saviours Parish Church at 11.45 a.m. on Thursday, 5th February.

BRYANS.—On January 28th, 1981, James Lonsdale, peacefully, at Norwich, in his 88th year.

BURNS.—On January 31st, 1981, at home, Mount Vyner, Vyner Road South, Birkenhead, Harry Hindmarsh Burns. Service and interment at Landican Cemetery, on Thursday, February 5, at 3 p.m. Any flowers, and inquiries please, to the T. A. Ball Funeral Service, Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead. Telephone 051 652 4974.

CHISEM.—On January 27th, peacefully at her home in Huddersfield, Flora, the wonderful and inspiring wife of Bill, and mother of Jeff. All our love as always.

COOMBE.—On Jan. 30th, 1981, at Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital, Ryde, I.W., Andrew John Coombe, B.Sc., F.R.A.S., aged 46, technical director of NDN Aircraft Ltd., following a short illness. Husband of Christine and father of Adam and Abigail. Funeral private, no flowers, but if desired donations to World Wildlife Fund. A memorial service will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge, I.W., on Friday, 6th Feb., at 12 noon.

DEARNALEY.—On January 30th, 1981, suddenly in hospital after a short illness, Dr. James Noel Dearnaley, Consultant Pathologist. Dearly loved by his wife Lucie and sons. Private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Nevill Hall Hospital Thrombosis Fund. Memorial service at St. Mary's Church, Abergavenny, to be arranged later.

DEATHS

EATON, STELLA, LADY.—On Sunday, February 1st, peacefully, in her own home after a short illness courageously borne. Adored sister of the late Walter Anthony Levinge Nicholl, and much loved sister-in-law of Joanna and of all her nephews and nieces. Funeral service 11.00 a.m., Friday, 6th February, at St. Michaels, Chester Square, SW1, followed by private cremation at Putney Vale. Cut flowers by request to J. H. Kenyon Ltd., 74 Rochester Row, Westminster SW1.

FOULKES.—On January 30th, 1981, peacefully in her 86th year, of Delamor House, Heswall, Wirral, Dorothy Foulkes (the Founder and Principal of Miss Foulkes Secretarial College, Liverpool). Service at St. Peter's Church, Heswall, on Friday, February 6th, at 11 a.m., followed by strictly private cremation. Flowers and all further inquiries to the T. A. Ball Funeral Service, Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead. Telephone 051 652 4974.

GAISFORD.—On February 1st, 1981, John Anthony, Rector of Agenahambo, Papua New Guinea, at home of a sudden illness. A memorial service will be announced.

GRAHAM.—Suddenly, on 1st February, David Firth, of 13 Wetchfield Court, London, W4. Much loved husband of Judith Beresel.

GRIBBLE, HARRY WAGSTAFF.—On January 28th in his 91st year, peacefully in New York.

GUYATT, ALEXANDER JOHN, on February 1st, at Farnborough Hospital, Kent, aged 3 years. Much loved son of John and Kathleen and brother of Elizabeth and Mary.

HANNAY, PATRICIA MARY, of Springhill, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, on January 31st, peacefully in hospital after a short illness. Much loved by all her family. Funeral family only. No flowers.

HARGROVE.—On January 29th, Aphra Locke, aged 90, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Only surviving daughter of the Reverend Charles Hargrove, M.A.D., Litt., formerly Rector of Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds, and dearly beloved aunt of Charles Hargrove, of Paris, France, after a lifetime of devotion to the cause of others. Requiem Mass at All Hallows Church, Gospel Oak, London NW3, at 12 noon Friday February 6th.

HATTON.—On January 31st, suddenly, Freda, aged 80, at Tolcarn, Uplowman, greatly loved wife of Bill and mother of Ann and grandmother of Julian, Nikki, and Bumble and great-grandmother of Emma, and Sarah. Funeral service at Uplowman Church, on Wednesday, February 4th, at 10.45 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

HEATH.—On 30th January, 1981, Major James, Gloucestershire Regiment in Salisbury, Wiltshire. Private funeral. No letters please.

HOYLAND.—On January 23rd, 1981, in Australia, William Frazer, aged 73 years, husband of Phyllis and father of Mark and of Christine Ward, of 36, Cromdale Street, Mortdale, N.W.S. 2223, headmaster of the Downs School, Colwall 1940-1952. Memorial service at the school at 2.30 p.m., on May 2nd.

LINDARS.—On 28th January, suddenly and peacefully, in his 82nd year, Herman Roderick Lindars, O.B.E., F.R.A.M., former managing director of Dunford and Elliott, Sheffield, and honorary musical director of Sheffield Philharmonic Society. Funeral service, Deans Grange Cemetery, Blackrock, Dublin, on Friday, 6th February, at 12.15 p.m. Flowers may be sent to William Fanagan Ltd., Aungier St., Dublin, by 10 a.m.

LOFT-SIMSON.—On or after 3rd January, 1981, missing, presumed dead, in the French Alps, with his friend Tim Martin, aged 20. Much loved youngest son of Mervyn and Elizabeth and dear brother of Nicholas, Stephen and Catherine.

LOWY.—On 29th January, peacefully and suddenly, in hospital, Dita, wife of the late Joe Lowy. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, London, N.W.11, on Friday, 6th February, at 12.20 p.m. Enquiries to Kemp & Stevens, 93 High St., Alton.

LUSTY, IVOR, L.L.D., O.B.E., on January 29, 1981, at Tauranga, New Zealand, after a long illness. Beloved husband of Dorothy, father of Joy and Kay, grandfather of Lael, Laurie, Megan and Morgan. Memorial service, Feb 3 at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Tauranga. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Tauranga Hospital Nurses Fund, Tauranga Hospital.

MICHELSON.—On January 31st, 1981, after a short illness, Curt Michelson in Lausanne, in his 87th year; greatly beloved husband, father and grandfather.

MIERS.—On February 1st 1981 peacefully at Bon Secours Convent, Margaret Travers of 6, Wellington Square, S.W.3, widow of Lieut-Colonel Rex Miers RA, much loved mother of Lorina and Christopher. Funeral private, family flowers only, but donations to Save The Children Fund, 157 Clapham Rd, S.W.9 by her request. Service of Thanksgiving at St Simon Zelotes, Milner St, S.W.3, on Saturday February 7th at 2.30 pm.

MOSS.—On January 29th, 1981, in Gloucester, Lucy Margaret Beaufort Moss, in her 87th year. Daughter of the late Dr H. W. Moss, headmaster of Shrewsbury School. Service at St. Catharine's Church, Gloucester, on Friday February 6th, at 11 a.m. Family flowers only, please.

OGLETHORPE.—On January 24th, 1981, at home, Anne Smith (nee Whitton), widow of Charles Oswald, and mother of Helen, Kenneth and Betty; in her 91st year; beloved by all her family. Funeral took place on January 30th.

PHILLIPS.—On January 31st, suddenly at home, Jeanne, dear wife of John, of Bryanston Court, George Street, W1. Requiem service 6.30 p.m., Wednesday, 4th February at All Saints Church, Margaret Street, London W1.

RICHARDSON.—On January 15th 1981 suddenly and peacefully, Eleanor Alice (nee Johnson), aged 75, at her home at South Benfleet. Cremation has taken place.

SCANTLEBURY.—On Friday, 30th January, 1981, suddenly, Very Reverend Mgr Francis H. Scantlebury. Requiem Mass, St Peter's, Winchester, 11.30, Thursday, 5th February, followed by interment. R.I.P.

DEATHS

TURNER. — On 1st February, 1981, in King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, after a short illness, Stella, of Barn Close, North Chapel. Funeral service at 11.15 a.m. on Friday, 6th February, at St. Michael's Church, North Chapel, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired may be sent to Reverend Wilmer, the Rectory, North Chapel, for the Seniors Club, North Chapel.

VAN HOEVEN.—On 2nd February 1981, at 1 Otley Road, Harrogate, Jane, dearly loved wife of Huib van Hoeven. Service at Christchurch, Harrogate, on Friday, February 6th, at 2 p.m., followed by interment. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be sent to Cancer Research, 33 East Parade, Harrogate.

WESLEY.—On January 29th, 1981, suddenly at home, 90 Wilbury Rd., Hove, Clive, husband of Pamela and father of Simon. Formerly of Norwegian Barn, Elstree, Herts. No flowers by request.

WHITBREAD.—On 31st January, 1981, peacefully at home at Englefield Green, Peter Whitbread. The funeral will be held privately.

YATES.—On January 29th, peacefully in his sleep, James Ivan, dearly loved by his wife, children and grandchildren. Funeral service will be held at Ashford Hill Church on February 4th at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Any donations may be sent to Riding for the Disabled Association, National Agricultural Centre, Kenilworth.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WALTERS.—A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Jack Walters will be held at St. Mary's Church, Reigate, on Saturday, February 14th at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM

WIGRAM, MAJOR LIONEL. In ever loving memory.

COVEN.—In cherished memory of Rate, very loved Mamma, on her birthday.—Frank and Edwina.

JOHNSON, MARY ELIZABETH. In loving and grateful remembrance. Margaret and Tobo.

LAWRENCE.—In very loving memory of Geoffrey, Feb 3rd, 1967. —Avice.

BROADHURST (nee Robinson) Joan, on Feb 3rd, 1952. There is an old American saying that fits her well, "After they made that one they broke the mould." Tim, Robin, Wendy.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

PROTECTION against Nuclear Attack—Provision for Shelters. Seminar at North East London Polytechnic, Stratford, London E15, 19 February 1981, £35 including luncheon. Further details : 01-590 7722 Ext. 6028.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

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2 FOR SUNNY ISRAEL!—Housekeeper and Mother's Help.—See Dom.

WOULD Mr. Ralph Jehardus Visagie or anyone knowing of his whereabouts, please ring 01-504 4996 after 6 p.m.

THE CREAM of Cornish holiday homes and hotels can be seen in The Times Holidays and Hotels feature every Saturday. If you own a hotel, a house, a cottage or even a converted barn and you want to let for the season, ring us now on 01-278 9161.

SKI INSTRUCTORS. See General Vacancies today!

SCRABBLERS: Entry forms for National Scrabble Championship, 1981, from Gyles Brandreth, NSC, P.O. Box 2, Eros House, Feltham, Middx. No entry fee, but please send stamped s.a.e.

HEART OF CHELSEA. 8, facing luxury Flats.—See London Flats.

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PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS? — French Institut. See Services.

EROTICA. For more details see wanted.

REMEMBER A RELATIVE or friend with an "In Memoriam" gift to the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12, Liverpool Street, London, EC2, and so give happiness to a needy and lonely old person.

WHO'S answering your phone? See For Sale.

SONIA STEVENSON Horn Of Plenty. Courses for Sauces.—See Services.

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A GUERNSEY will keep you warmer than Glukwein! See For Sale column.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,440

ACROSS

1 Your address on Kipling's liner (8).
5 Melancholy effect of organ (6).
10 Scorn Hampton's offence (8, 2, 5).
11 To proceed by cutting into stock points to corruption (7).
12 Adaptable compound of salt and ice (7).
13 Old dance is child's play (8).
15 Those changes to moral character (5).
18 Opt for another name for Korea (5).
20 Sound as a bell after a loss? Sensation! (8).
23 Apple wife's not back (7).
25 Passage where Venus comes across Phoebus? (7).
26 Courier from college dining-hall could be Green (6, 9).
27 Lure EEC into trouble—no end of it! (6).
28 Stays firm: Terry's watering (8).

DOWN

1 Servant of the state coming up with the solution (6).
2 Disparage unnatural diet range (9).
3 Incomplete book reference to percolation (7).
4 Fashionable place for supply of computers (5).
6 Tool to choose on river (7).
7 Triumph achieved late last month (5).
8 What the judge does with currency receiver (4-4).
9 Catherine's favourite naval unit (8).
14 Contradiction in law to many in trouble (8).
16 Sort of wisdom deer-stalkers may gain? (9).
17 Top gear worn and antiquated? Keep it under your hat (8).
19 Huge bird one can cut in pieces (7).
21 They loiter about on foot (7).
22 Sky so bright, but pitch-black below the Pole (6).
24 Goose seen in Greater London (5).
25 Russian newsmen have nothing for a poet (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,439

CENOTAPH, FELLES, COMMUNED, GLANCE, LILAC, OLEANDERS, REMINISCENCE, INCONFIDENCE, BRITANNIA, DUTCH, REEFER, SHAMBLES, DATURA, EDENTATE [partly illegible grid]

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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(continued on page 22)

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